# **Magic Robot Aluminare**

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"Papa, what is today's target?"

As I sat at the breakfast table, I asked my father, who was sitting in front of me, this question. My pop is a lazy, middle-aged man who grows a beard, and looks like a Waru Kei(悪系). Having an evil expression coupled with a beard, there were rumors that any person would always be afraid the first time he or she saw him. Even babies would start to cry. In such a remote farming village, they don't expect such a character to stay permanently, so they were scared when he first immigrated here. By the way, he will be 30 this year.

Papa swallowed a piece of hard bread dipped in goat's milk, then answered my inquiry.

"Aim for the hummingbirds, Eldo. At least 3 birds"

"Hummingbirds you say?... They are troublesome you know"

"It's a request from the village chief. It seems to be necessary for the village. I'm certain you that, if it's you, they can be taken down. I am expecting it"

The hummingbirds are medium sized birds that move between trees at high speed like bees. You cannot hit them with an arrow, because they move so fast that, even if you set a trap, they will just break it with their natural power.

If that is the case, I can certainly capture them if I use my magic. But, even though it's possible, it doesn't change the fact that it's troublesome.

"Aren't you expecting too much from a kid? I'm still just 8 years old"

Yes, I am still 8 years old, but I can use magic much better than anyone else in the village. Its unthinkable to them that the mind of an 8 year old could grow up to this much, but my body itself is definitely that of an 8 year old.

To such a kid, who will have a hard time catching 3 hummingbirds with all the other monsters living in the forest, it is not a usual request.

"It was decided based on your accomplishments"

"Hah...It can't be helped then."

"Eldo-chan is more excellent than Papa, so it's only natural for you to be relied on"

While saying this, my mother placed my breakfast in front of me.

Because my father is somewhat a scary Waru Kei, you would think my mother looks like a Gyaru Kei(ギャル系), but she uses a neat, tidy, and cute style. Mama's tea-colored ponytail hair bounce prettily in sync with her movements today. I don't know how they met up to the point where they got married, I think Papa was threatened, that is what I secretly believe.

With just a single word from Mama, Papa will gouge out his heart and all he can do is hold on to it to his chest.

Such a sad state.

"I will hunt down a three-horned cow within this week. So that we can live comfortably for a while"

The three-horned cow that my Papa was talking about is a very rare creature, even in this country very few are found. However their meat is very delicious, it seems to be traded between nobles for a considerable price. If you can hunt one of that animal, your family can live in luxury without any worries in income for half a year. But because they are rare, a restriction was put in place on the time to hunt them, and on top of that any hunters who doesn't have a license are prohibited to hunt them. Papa is definitely one those who has a license.

The beginning of this spring was the time where hunting is permitted. To hunt one down by the end of the week, so that means—-

"Did you find one?"

"Yes, but its located deep in the forest, carrying it will be hard and it's not a short distance to drag it"

"If that's the case, can I go and help you out?"

I gave my suggestion to Papa but he got upset and frowned. Having already a fierce looking face, the corner of his eyes rose up giving a more evil look. Maybe

if you are weak and got glared by those eyes, I feel like it would likely kill you.

"Whoa there, being a hunter for 10 years is not just for show you know? I alone is not a problem"

"Well then, if Papa's hunting is a success, we must celebrate!"

I clapped my hand, Mama laughed delightfully.

"If I hunted one, it doesn't mean we can get a large sum of money immediately"

"Then we celebrate half a month after then"

Mama returned happily to the kitchen without hearing any of it. Anyway, I need to think of what to buy when the peddler comes around to this place next time.

I quickly crammed my breakfast to my stomach and left my seat.

"Thank you for the meal"

"Leaving soon?"

"Since it's three of them, it probably take a whole day"

I took down from the wall a set of hunting equipment, placed a hatchet on my waist and shouldered the bag that had specialized weapons. I did not took the bow. It won't hit the hummingbird anyway, so my weapon would be my magic.

"Well then, I'm off"

"Have a good day"

"Watch out for the valley"

"You already warned me many times"

While having a bitter smile, that warning became my father's favorite phrase, I left the house.

As soon as I left the house, I could feel the warm breeze of spring, the fragrant smell of flowers slowly drifts in the air.

The animals starts to become active when it's getting warm. As I was walking towards the forest thinking this would be an easy hunt, someone greeted me

from behind.

"Good Morning Eldo!"

I looked back, its the only other person who has the same age as me.Or rather, the only other child in this entire village that has only 2 children. It's Anjou, the village chief's daughter.

If you describe Anjou in a single sentence, she's a beautiful girl.

She inherited her mother's blue eyes and blonde hair, she had a pure upbringing without a sliver of malice touching her. As a precious child of the village, Anjou was raised carefully, exactly like the village's idol.

Well,I'm also one of those precious children that has been raised carefully but...... You see, my thinking is that of an adult already, I can be cunning in various ways.

"It's Anjou, Good morning. It's unusual to meet you at this time"

Every morning, Anjou takes care of the vegetables and I go out to hunt, because of this it's rare for us to meet. We usually play after work is done in the morning or later in the evening.

"Ah, yes. I'm going to tend the vegetable after this, there is something I want to give to you from before"

"To me?"

Did I lend something to Anjou? I don't particularly remember.....I mean it would be nuisance to return it before going on a hunt.

"I heard that Grandpa requested Eldo to hunt hummingbirds"

"Yes"

"Doesn't Eldo-kun always told me it takes a great amount of time to find a hummingbird? Therefore, this!"

She held out something while she said so, a wooden box the size of a lunchbox. Well, it's a lunchbox if I say so myself. It's tied down with a string on a cross formation so that the lid will not open.

"What's this?"

"It's a sandwich I made. It's good if you eat it during lunch"

"Oh, Thank you for this"

Because it's troublesome to return home during noontime, I was thinking of getting through with it only on forest fruits or something. Then came the lunchbox which I'm truly grateful of.

"Did you made this by yourself? Only Anjou? "

"U, un. However I got some assistance from mother...... "

Anjou nodded so as she hides her fingertips in embarrassment. At that time, I noticed that there are bandages on Anjou's fingertips.

It seems she was not used to it even though she tried really hard.

"I see, thank you. I'm looking forward for the lunch"

I thank her while I pat Anjou's head. She likes to be patted on the head like from the old days. More precisely she is childish, because its a fact that she is still a child, when I pat her she seems really pleased. Is she really glad to be patted by someone as old as her? Well it's probably because I have been doing it to her since we were 4 years old that this just became a habit.

"Its good that you are looking forward to it, but can you focus on your hunt properly? And because you are sleepy always that I'm worried."

"I'm not sleep you know?"

"I'm not convinced when you are telling me that with half-open eyes ....."

I'm not particularly conscious of it, but I always seem to have my eyes half-closed. It would appear that I'm sleepy to those who see it and will become worried. Oh well, it's thanks to the grace of god that I didn't inherit papa's glinting eyes, although to be asked if I need help every time...... is a little troublesome.

"Anyway, it seems to be alright. I'm going now "

"Un, have a nice day"

"Good luck to you"

While receiving a send-off from Anjou, I went into the into the woods.

It's eerie and dim inside forest that hasn't been touch by human hands.

Inside the forest, I climbed up to one of the trees as I activated my magic.

On top of my palm a semi-transparent sphere floats, red dot moves around restlessly.

I was using search magic. The range is usually around a 100 meters in radius. I can detect that there are creatures but I cannot discern what kind is it.

This magic is not easy to use, but I'm dealing with it as I improve this little by little.

When I fire of that magic, I can examine around a 300 meter circle with me at the center of it. If I shoot this in a straight line in front of me, then my search range can reach up to 800 meters. And by sweeping it around, I performed it like a search radar.

According to the villagers that can use magic, this was a great idea, but for me this idea is only natural. After all, I know such a thing like the convenient Radar.

Yes, I'm a reincarnated person. Up until eight years ago, I lived in Japan. At that time when I was twenty-two years old, I went to an engineering university and I drew out my last breath at the place of my employment.

I can't remember accurately how I died, but it probably was an accident. Oh well, I'm not really interested at how it ended.

Anyhow, now I'm living a new life as Eldo, I was impressed for a short while that this world has magic in it, but my soul is unsatisfied.

Certainly, the use of magic is fun. Or rather, it's thanks to the knowledge from my previous life that using magic is much easier.

Because of that, the village had the best magicians and hunters.

However, the school I went to previously was teaching engineering. And the reason I went to it, is because of my hobby.

"I want to operate a robot"

I'm Hase Shuichi, twenty two years old. Operating robots is my hobby. This is my profile from my previous life.

I belonged to the Robot Research Club at my university, I also played in RoboCon as a pilot. Of course I like robot anime. When a cockpit style game cabinet appeared at the game center, I was really impressed.

This hobby still remains strongly even now that I'm reincarnated.

But this world is a fantasy. Furthermore, there is no electricity at this civilization level. Although there seems are places which uses coal, but this remote village is only limited to using charcoal.

Such things like a robot won't exist at this level of civilization .....

"Haa...... Huh, there's a reaction"

Letting out a small sigh, I detected some movement which looks like a hummingbird in my search magic.

The hummingbird is a medium sized bird almost as big as a crow, unlike earth's hummingbird but the way the fly and hover is the same, they fly around the gaps in the forest with such precision. As for their movement characteristics. For a bird the size of a crow, the flapping speed of the wing is unusual and they can hover on the spot, its unimaginable if you consider the laws of physics from my previous life, but this is a fantasy world any abnormal phenomenon can be chalked up to the word "fantasy".

So, I gave up on trying to understand it.

As I locked on my search magic towards the direction of the hummingbird, before I jump out of the tree and risk losing sight of it, I went toward the there.

### "[Aero Thruster]"

I accelerated at once using the momentum of the air bursting under my feet.

I ran between the trees and sometimes jumped on to the branches, while I hack away the leaves with the blade of my hatchet to go through the shortest route.

And then, I found a bird who is moving subtly.

### "[Down Burst]!"

I casted my magic towards the target. Unlike the actual scientific

phenomenon, this magic is only a wind striking into the ground, but I gave it that name because it looks the same.

The hummingbird, driven by the sudden strong wind, slammed its body to the ground. In addition, the ferocious wind is still blowing down, which made hummingbird unable to fly away.

Large birds have low bone density. Therefore, it doesn't have enough strength to support the body.

Pinning down the hummingbird while struggling in place, I swung down the hatchet to its neck.

I slashed the neck without any resistance and blood gushed out dyeing the ground red, the smell of iron wafts through the air.

"Phew. First bird down. "

It felt quite a long time had passed as I started to drain the blood out of the bird.

I'm stuffing my mouth with the sandwich that Anjou made while looking at the small fishes jumping out from the stream.

The sandwich is made with a basic set of vegetables and ham. Not only does she help around the house on a daily basis, this tasted great too.

"She's going to be an excellent wife someday— no wait, will she become my wife?"

The are only 2 children in the village, Anjou and me. If we grow up without any incident, it will almost certain that Anjou and I will get married. Somehow it feels that the surrounding adults are pushing for it to happen.

Well, I don't have any complaints. Even now, Anjou is a cute and beautiful girl. The path to being a beautiful person in the future is certain. She have good looks, and her cooking is delicious. There won't be any negative factor.

But, I wonder at the same time if this a good situation.

In spite of receiving valuable experience from the rare reincarnation, will I be constrained and die in this remote village?

Given the narrative of me going to travel in the future, deepening relationships with people from various surrounding countries, and seeing the world around while lending a helping hand to those in need seems to be the best, unfortunately I don't have the motivation to carry out that troublesome narrative.

"Well, I will leave it to fate then"

In the end, I settled with that conclusion.

I toss the remaining piece of sandwich to my mouth, and quenched my thirst with water.

There is only clean river water in the countryside, it is still cold at this time of spring.

"Phew ..... Now then, shall we work more?"

I cleaned up my lunchbox and I activated my search magic again.

Since I have been chasing hummingbirds, I have already entered the deep part of the forest, there are a lot of creatures in here, my search magic displays a myriad of red dots.

While observing their movement one by one, I move to the location little by little.

Despite the improved search magic, it was only by luck that I was able to hunt 2 birds in the morning. Thanks to it, I don't have to worry about the time limit in the afternoon.

I can concentrate on exploration without getting too worked up.

"This is..... Different. Perhaps its a butterfly. And this one...... Looks like a lizard

There are a lot of unexpected creatures that are moving subtly. Neither reptiles nor insects looks like a hummingbird but their movements are hare very hard to discern.

Even if you think you have finally found it, most of the time when I reached the location, it was actually a lizard.

Still, I persevere for about another hour I think.

"I found you!"

There was a reaction in the search magic.

Subtle movement, then will hold still in place for a few seconds. After some time, it will move to another location and will hold still again.

It looks like a lizard or an insect, but the repetition of subtly moving and holding still is unusual.

As I hang on to that glimmer of hope, I casted [Aero Thruster] and ran through the woods.

And I found the one bird that has a unique way of flying while holding still in the air.

It still hasn't noticed that I'm here, it is desperately sucking nectar from the white flowers that bloomed in the bushes.

"I can finally go home with this!"

I removed the hatchet from it's sheath, and I set up a magic towards the hummingbird. At that instant, the hummingbird noticed me here.

The hummingbird have an explosive power to soar immediately. Hummingbird that found me, when pulling out the tongue from flowers, hide and to stretch and raised in the tree. That hummingbird found me. it quickly pulled out its tongue from the flower and rose to hid behind the tree. But—

Don't think you can ran away from me with just this. [Air Blast]! "

I anticipated it will escape at first. So, I have a magic just for the occasion, this is not intended to slam down the hummingbird but to blow its surroundings.

A huge lump of air burst out from my left hand, knocking the tree where the hummingbird was hiding.

Birds and insects who were resting on the tree flew away all together and the vicinity became very noisy.

All of my nerves were on high alert as birds were escaping with all their might as the leaves flutter down. And then, I finally caught my prey.

#### "[Down Burst]!"

I shot my magic towards the hummingbird. Just before it hits, the hummingbird suddenly changed direction by 90 degrees, it had flown outside the effective range of [Down Burst].

"Tsk, I missed it huh"

This is unusual. That animal, it was able to dodge as if it can sense magic.

This fellow, that hummingbird just now, is able to change its movement direction as soon as it notice that magic is just about to be casted. Because of that my magic will not hit it at all.

If this is a common bird or beast, I could kill it with a bow, but the hummingbird is different. In the first place you can't hit it with an arrow, then it's able to dodge magic, this is close to stalemate.

However, I finally found the last hummingbird. Also if I look for another one again, it will take me several hours to find one. Because the forest became noisy after I had used that magic earlier, it became difficult to use search magic.

That's why, no matter what I must catch it!

I returned my hatchet to its sheath while using [Aero Thruster], then I constructed a new magic onto my hand.

#### "[Active Wing], [Quadruple Installation]"

As the magic was waiting on my hand, I slapped both my shoulders and both sides of my thighs in these order with my other hand. Then the magic that was on standby in my hand, moved to the location where I slapped previously.

After confirming it, I spoke the activation word for the magic that's on standby mode.

## "[Start]!"

The magic spawned four small wings. The wings that are on both shoulders and thighs are too small to fly properly on the air.

However, the forest has an important factor which is that the trees has grown very thick branches to use as a foothold.

The four small wings moves according to my will. As it is, my body is now very stable in the air.

To add up, I raised the power of [Aero Thruster] to maximum which I have been suppressing so far.

The tree branch that I used as a foothold cannot withstand the air explosion, that it got torn off into thousand pieces.

The wind pressure hitting on my body is incomparable to before, It's even hard to open my eyes.

While I make sure that I can see properly, I chased the hummingbird using the attitude control of the [Active Wing].

There is only one way to catch a hummingbird that can avoid magic and arrows.

You just have to catch up with it and grab the scruff of the neck.

"Waaaaaiiiiiit!"

I came closer gradually as the hummingbird desperately flaps its wings.

I'm already at a distance where I can reached it if I forcibly reached out my hand. However, the balance will be messed up if I reached out now. Don't be impatient and calm down. Just a little more, just fifty more centimeters!

Here I go! The moment I thought so, the hummingbird suddenly changed its flight direction.

It's so agile, again it did a 90 degree right turn. So I used a tree trunk as a foothold to change direction immediately. I could hear the tree creaking while it falls behind me, at that moment I'm already far away from it.

Despite chasing it with that much speed, the distance between me and the hummingbird was wide open again.

"Damn, that guy is feeling cocky."

The high-speed pursuit race has restarted in the forest.

I don't even know where I am in the forest anymore. I hate it that I'm lost, I have been going all around in confusion as the scenery changed suddenly as

there are now more trees are all over the place.

Maybe this is the aim of the hummingbird, such bad luck! I understand now, it really wants me to give up!

I felt an unusual tension as I was trying to grab the back of the hummingbird again.

"This time for sure!"

At that moment the hummingbird looked back at me and I felt something was not right, but I can not afford to worry about such a thing now.

There is a light that shines up a little ahead. Maybe that is an exit to a possible open space. If that's the case, I'm gonna be losing my footholds and the hummingbird will get away.

I have to catch it before that happens!

I put a lot of force on my foot and kick the branch.

I outstretched my right arm and could feel the foot of the hummingbird at the tip of my finger, I then suddenly grabbed the slim ankle.

Even tough the hummingbird was panicking as it tries to desperately flap its wing, I have finally caught my prey and I have no intention of letting it go.

I pulled back my arm, and held the neck of the hummingbird, which was running wild with my left hand. The hummingbird cannot escape me any longer.

"I did it!"

At the same time I caught it, I had already went out to the place where the light shined .

I put up some air brakes on the [Active Wing] for landing. As I was looking at the ground to decide on a landing point, my face muscles twitched.

There is no ground.

"This is the valley!"

You see, deep within the forest, there is a huge valley which we were always

been to to be really careful, the enormous waterflow from the mountainous areas flows though here

This river became a big river that leads all the way to the capital of the this country, but that's not what I'm worried about now.

The valley has been weathered for a very long time and is very deep. Such height is not easy to climb. To begin with, there is large amount of water coming in from different places flowing into the bottom of the valley. If a person fell there, they would be jostled like a leaf of a tree.

"This guy, this is what you are trying to do!"

Hummingbird was planning to escape by flying across the valley. I thought about it as I look at the hummingbird on my left hand that had stop trashing about, it's like its saying "We're gonna die together" as it stares back at me.

This egghead decided at that moment to hold on to dear life on my hands

"Hey, don't ever think that!"

Falling from this height to the water's surface, is no different than falling on to concrete.

Looking ahead at the river, it's a straight line to death.

The hummingbird became quiet as I forcibly stuffed it into the bag, I then activated my magic.

[Aero Thruster] is a magic that burst out compressed air between the ground and my feet. So it doesn't serve me good when falling. Therefore, another magic must be activated.

#### "[Air Shock Absorber], [Quadruple Setup]! [Open]!"

Four wall of air materialized in front of me. Even if the effectiveness of the individual shock absorber is small, if 4 of them are piled up, it will certainly slow me down considerably.

I crashed on the first wall. The first wall stretch a little bit but it ripped easily. Immediately following is the second wall, which was also torn easily, but my speed had slowed certainly compared to before.

The effects multiplier of the magic to reduce the speed had risen.

The third wall stretched a little bit further before it was torn. And then, the fourth wall.

I rushed to the wall, hoping that I can endure it a little bit more.

I could feel my body being jerked while also sensing that my speed had dropped

When I burst out of the last wall, my speed had fallen to half of what it used to at the beginning.

"Alright, now this!"

My speed dropped but there is another magic that I can use to further lessen the impact of the fall.

#### "[Air Cushion], [Quadruple Setup]! [Open]!"

As I approached the river closer, I immediately was able to invoke with all my power a cushion of air.

I prayed to fate afterwards.

After I confirmed that the magic got deployed, I tightly closed my eyes and and I curled up into a ball to protect my head, and then I fell to the river making a splash.

"Kooof! Kooof!"

Immediately after my consciousness woke up slightly, I was coughing with full force.

I spat out water that I accidentally swallowed and was breathing roughly.

It's incredibly painful, but isn't it evidence that I'm alive if I can feel the pain?

I seem to have been washed ashore on the riverbank while drifting along the way. I wasn't swept away too far as I'm still in the ravine of the valley. I lie on my back as I look up to the sky

"Haa ...... Haa...... I'm still alive....."

There are birds that looks like a kite circling above the ravine.

While thinking about escaping towards the sky, I saw something that doesn't look like a rock at the edge of my view.

"What ..... Is this ....."

I turned my face towards that place and fixed my gaze.

I kept my gaze at it while rising up my body.

A humongous figure sitting down as if leaning against the wall of the ravine.

Both feet are sprawled about, it looks like sleeping is sitting position, my heart was beating so fast..

"Is it ..... A robot?"

An artificial silver giant. The encounter between me and Aluminare, along with my survival, can be even be said to be a miracle.

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I was attracted to the giant, I approached it while still fully drenched.

About it's size, I think just the length of the leg is about 4 meters. It would probably be 8 meters if it stand straight, that's almost as tall as a three-story building.

The armor on its limbs looks like it was formed from a sheet of steel plate and the curves were molded to be aerodynamic. The fuselageMain Body armor looks like one used by the knights. The face closely resembles that of a human.

Looks like this thing hasn't moved for a very long time, there's rust all over the place, and some parts have even been entangled by ivy.

At first glance it's not that too badly damaged, the left arm was missing from its shoulder but I think I can see that very same arm stuck on the cliff.

"Unreal."

I never thought that I would see a SFScience-Fiction work in a fantasy world. No, there is possibility that it might operate under a fantasy mechanism, but it appears to have been built based on a solid principle or theory.

Its' really like a machine just by peeking through the gaps and joints of the armor, there is even something that looks like a tube for a hydraulic pump, it stimulated the memory of my past life and my soul.

I didn't know how long I was standing there fascinated. I pulled myself back as I quickly check the prey in my bag.

I wonder what happened to that damnable hummingbird that caused this situation.

I took out the hummingbird —- It drowned.

"Oops. I must quickly bleed it out"

No reason to be sentimental about it. Although I slightly regret it that I wasn't

able to kill it personally, right now there is a robot in front of me which I have been yearning for. Those things doesn't matter anymore.

I took the hatchet from my waist and chopped of the neck of the hummingbird without hesitation.

If I don't bleed it out, the meat will easily go bad, also the bad smell of the blood will spread out. Even though it's a hummingbird that I painstakingly hunted, it will not sell if the meat smells bad.

I dug a small hole in the ground with the hatchet and let the blood coming from the neck of the hummingbird drop in that hole.

After I squeezed out all of the blood, I put back the bird in my bag.

"Well."

I looked up again at the robot that's in front of me.

Even though it's broken, no self-respecting robot lover will ever not ride it.

I took off my wet jacket which had been clinging on me, activated [Aero Thruster], and jumped onto the robot's foot, heading to the fuselage.

For a robot this size, the cockpit would be at the fuselage. I tried to examine the fuselage armor which looks like an armor a knight. However, the armor was made from a single piece of steel plate, so I didn't see anything like a cockpit door.

If that's the case, I will climb up to the back of the neck.

Since to enter the main body, its expected to enter it via the abdomen or at the back of the neck.

And so my hunch was on spot.

"This is it then"

At the back of the neck, there was a lever in a palmed-size hole. It's probably the lever to open the cockpit from the outside.

I pulled it without any hesitation.

Something fell out along with a PSSHH sound when the center of the neck divided into two, the entrance to the cockpit was opened

"Ugh ....."

At that instant, a rotten stench drifts from the cockpit.

I instinctively frowned and was taken aback.

It's only natural if you think about it. You cannot have only the robot in such a place, there has to be a pilot together with it, and since the cockpit was not opened, there's reason to believe that the pilot still remains inside.

From looking at the appearance of the robot, I guess the pilot died from the shock when the robot fell over the cliff.

Confined in the cockpit rotting for so many years, the only thing remaining from the pilot is its skeleton. The skeleton collapsed, spilling over from the seat.

"It seems to be impossible to ride this today."

I must clean it first before I can ride it.

As I left the cockpit door opened for ventilation, I got off the robot and looked around the surroundings.

The sky's still blue, I could still see sunlight which indicates the sun hasn't gone down yet. It's evidence that not much time has passed since i came here. .

If I hurriedly return back home now and get some cleaning tools, I might have enough time to come back here.

I made full use of [Aero Thruster], and climbed up the cliff little by little.

Probably because I was washed away further along the river, the cliff here wasn't that deep, so I was able to climb it easily.

After that, I climbed a tall tree and I looked around.

Base on the position of the sun, the time is probably around just past 3 p.m., the expected sundown this early in the spring is about half past 5 p.m., just enough time.

I have confirmed the position of the mountain, and estimated the location of the village based on the direction of the river.

"Generally, I think it's over there, but this is strange"

It is difficult to understand it with the naked eye, but I think I see something like a smoke rising up there.

"There is nothing else I could do but go and see"

I used a combination of [Active Wing] and [Aero Thruster], I went back to the village at full speed.

As I exit the forest, I could see the village as expected, well this is village that I was born in of course.

Usually when I enter the forest, I enter it from behind the village, but since I was washed away by the river that when I came back, I have returned to the side of the village where the women are working on the fields.

And so I was confined on the spot.

"Just a minute, Eldo kun!?"

As I was walking towards the village my name was suddenly called out by a very loud voice, all the women working on the field immediately looked towards me in unison.

I sigh as I faced the person who called out to me.

There she was, It's Anjou. She is in the middle of harvesting but the vegetables are all over her feet, she probably dropped it when she got surprised.

"Hey, the vegetables are gonna get spoiled if you drop it"

"A, Ah! Don't you move! Why are you sopping wet and why are you wandering around here! Here, wipe yourself dry!"

Anjou came to me in panic as she passed me a towel.

I received the towel and wiped my hair vigorously.

The women are grinning while looking at us. And then they quickly returned to work.

"My bad, my bad. I fell in the river earlier"

"You fell in the river, you mean you fell down through the valley!?"

Anjou looked at me in surprised. Well you see, there was no person in the

village that fell down in the valley that came out safe. I even barely survived.

"Don't worry about it"

"Are you all right? Are you hurt anywhere!?"

She ran up to me touching all over my body. That guy who saw my nakedness just a moment ago, blushed and went somewhere.

"Nothing's wrong. Also I was able to hunt three hummingbirds"

"That's not the problem right now! Anyhow, you need to warm your body! You're gonna catch a cold if you stay as you are now! "

"I know. Anyway, can you release me now since I want to go home? "

"Wa-u."

She didn't noticed that she had been touching my body, Anjou's cheek became slightly red. Because it's not evening yet, I can't tell if it's being reddened by the setting sun.

Taking the opportunity, I handed the bag that I have been carrying to Anjou.

"It's the hummingbirds. It's a little wet, but don't you worry for I have already bled it out. Please hand it to the chief. "

"I understand, now go and get dry quickly!"

"Yes, Yes."

I pushed backed Anjou and went back to the village.

It wasn't possible to return to the bottom of the valley for the robot this day after all

I came home drenched and I was startled when Mama screamed in surprised when she saw me, Papa rushed over when he heard the scream and was also surprised when he saw me.

Two of them together questioned on me on what happened, I explained that while I was chasing the hummingbird I fell off in the valley. Of course, I received a sermon.

While they did that, it became evening already that I gave up going back to the

bottom. The forest during the night is truly dangerous, even for me.

Oh well, I'll just go there everyday starting tomorrow.

When the sermon ended, it was dinnertime. It seems to be venison stew today.

"Good grief, I always told you to watch out for that valley."

"I understand already. I know what I did was really bad, so forgive me already. Anyway, I'm expecting a sermon from Anjou tomorrow"

I sighed deeply after drinking the goat's milk in one go.

After getting a sermon from mama for more than one hour, I don't want to get another sermon from Papa until I eat my dinner first.

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"Hah ..... it can't be helped huh."
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"Papa is so sweet. Because Eldo has done everything flawlessly, you get carried away easily. I have to properly scold you or you won't reflect your mistakes"

"I truly understand. I'm repenting already "

There isn't a single person who won't repent if they sat in seiza for at least one hour. Also, it's not an absolute sermon if the other guy enjoys it.

Of course I don't have any special propensity towards it.

"I don't trust your words. You are prohibited from entering the forest for one week starting tomorrow.

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"No way!?"
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You're telling me I can't go to the bottom where the robot is! ? It's too painful to wait for that long! This level of punishment is too much!

"Your reaction is evidence that you didn't repent! For one week you're gonna help Mama on the field "

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"Papa ....."
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I clung on to Papa as I look to him.

Papa was eating a mouthful of stew when he saw me, he just then slowly shook his head. Is there really no other way!?

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"Do you understand?"
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".....Yes"

"Good"

As I reluctantly nodded, Mama was laughing with satisfaction.

But, I will not give up. Surely it's impossible now to go to the bottom, where the robot is for one week, but I'm sure I could investigate various things related to the robot in this village.

First of all, I could determine whether or not the existence of robot is common for the people of this world.

Maybe because I'm still a kid that they haven't told me this yet, there might be a lot of robots in some town.

"Oh yeah Papa, I found something strange while hunting today."

"Something strange?"

"I saw a giant made of iron walks toward the mountain. It made this amazing thumping sounds that the forest became terribly noisy"

Indeed, I should ask Papa if he knew something like a robot. He will be able to tell me if he knows something.

"Hmmm, it's highly possible you saw an Aluminare"

Bingo! So the robot seems to be called Aluminare.

"Aluminare?"

"I don't know the detailed principles behind it, but it's a doll made totally out of iron and a person rides on it to move"

"Incredible! People are riding that?!"

Of course I know since I saw the real thing. Incidentally, I got a perfect view of that damn dead person.

"But it's unusual for the Aluminare to be active around this area. This place is not near the border and they can't afford to guard this place, but"

Papa frowned, puzzled as he says so.

"They don't have enough of it?"

"Yeah, to mobilize one takes a great deal of money. This country has about 30 of them around. Therefore, they are usually deployed in the border or the Imperial Capital. For that thing to come to this place, it is maybe necessary to do a little investigation"

"You're right. What kind of person that are riding those?"

"It's a knight of this country. Story is you have to be an elite who received special training. If you want to hear more details, the you have to go to the village chief's place"

"Village Chief?"

How come the village chief came up this time?

"I heard that long time ago the village chief ran out of the village with the aim to be an Aluminare Rider. He should know more detail about the Aluminare than me"

"To think that the village chief had that background"

I never expected Anjou's old man to be a rascal, His eyes is so gentle, unlike my Papa, also he is gentle, calm, and his dandy beard started to turn white.

"As expected, Eldo-chan is a boy after all for having an interest in Aluminare"

Mama was listening to our talk while eating the stew, she looked at me then showed a gentle smile.

As Mama said those words, Papa nodded in agreement.

"What do you mean?"

"Boys who have seen an Aluminare once, will mostly aspire to be an Aluminare Rider. Well, during a deployment ceremony in the Imperial Capital, they are flaunted and displayed in the parade, I can't really understand the feeling of aspiration "

"Your Mama yearned to see a person who was an Aluminare Rider during her childhood. Dressed in pure white knight clothes, they move along the parade riding on the shoulder of the Aluminare, squealing together with their neighborhood friends"

Apparently, the Aluminare Riders of this world are treated like an elite superathletes. It is the boys number one dream job and the target of desire for girls.

Oh well, it seems that having only 30 machines made the admiration to them a premium sensation. To be able to join them immediately would usually entail a high passing mark. Wait, so it means —-

"I'm certain that Mama already saw it then"

"You're right, It would before Eldo was born then. Me and Mama was born in the Imperial Capital. The chance to see the Aluminare was definitely higher than any of the other towns.

"Really?!"

This, this is the first time I have ever heard it.

I heard that we moved here to the village so Papa could change into a hunter, I didn't know I was born in the Imperial Capital...... Perhaps I'm a noble, there is a chance that the noble's blood flows within me——

"Although I was born in the Imperial Capital, I was just however an ordinary commoner"

No chance is seems......

"Then, why did you became a hunter? If it's the Imperial Capital, there was more kinds of work"

"It's because I wanted to experience that flavor again"

"Ah, yes. I understand now "

He had the opportunity to taste the Three-Horned Cow in the Imperial Capital and hasn't forgotten the taste since then.

"And then you abducted Mama"

"BUFUU!"

When I mumbled those words, Papa spat out his stew, while Mama was roughly chuckling.

"GEHOO GEHOO, for what reason did you say that!"

"No, no, I just thought it's more likely. Papa should be more conscious your own appearance. Glaring a wild wolf to submission, ordinary people can't do it"

There was a legend that a wolf wandered to the village and was subdued just by his powerful gaze, that story was passed down throughout the village since then.

Me too cannot forget that day, Papa just glared intensely at the wolf and then it rolled over showing its belly and became tame since then.

It should be noted that the wolf became dinner the next day. The law of the jungle is terrifying.

"That's wrong! When I got my hunter's license, I confessed my love to your mother"

"Huh?!"

I was surprised and look towards Mama, she was nodding in nostalgia.

"Yes. I was working at a shop and didn't like we will be separated so I accepted it"

No way, Mama was really swaying in love. She's pretty aggressive in spite of her appearance. I mean, she was not frightened by Papa's powerful gaze. No, instead, why didn't the person who looks like Mama notice it?

After that, dinnertime was moving slowly while listening to how Mama and Papa's romance started.

<< < Project Page> >>

The next day. I worked on the fields together with Mama as promised.

Anjou was delighted that she will be able to work with me, unfortunately, my work was not as delicate as Anjou's. Anyhow, I'll just use my magic. So, even though I was 8 years old, the heavier physical work was left to me.

Anjou was depressed when she heard that. Recently she got hooked on practicing magic and I teach her some secrets.

After stroking Anjou's head, Mama brought me over to a field a little bit further away.

"Well then, you have to plow this field here"

"I'm good at wind magic but this...."

This field was previously harvested already and the only thing remaining are the stalks, I looked towards Mama with scornful eyes.

By the way, to plow the soil I would need to use other elemental magic. I'm not really at good at fire or water magic. Also, search magic belongs to the non-attribute class, which I'm able to use fairly well.

"It's alright. Look! You will develop your special magic in a usual manner"

"Special huh....."

It's not because it's impossible. Mama can't use even a little bit of nonelemental magic, so even If I teach her, she won't be able to understand how amazing it is. However, if a person can use a little bit of magic, then I can develop it.

Honestly, I don't wanna do it. Even though this is a remote village, the number of people coming in and out is not zero, so I totally understood if rumors of me leaks out.

It would be strange if I don't have plans to develop my magic, as it seems to be

important for this world.

"You can't do it?"

Mama..... Don't look at me with those sad and sorrowful eyes. I have no choice but to do it.

"I understand! I understand so please stop with the watery eyes!"

"Thank you. Because Mama has to go back to harvesting, come and tell me if you're done plowing. And that will be your work for today"

"Roger that. Is this the only place where harvesting was done already? Is it really impossible to cultivate a new lands?"

"Yeah, we can't handle all of it with rest of us if you expand it. Well then, good luck"

"Alright, it's time to do it"

As for me, there is nothing my wind magic that can't be applied , so I reflect upon that thought.

After I finished plowing, I went and spoke to Mama that my work was done.

Because I somehow completed it in the morning, my afternoon was completely free. I'm going back to my house for the time being as I considered where to eat lunch.

"Eldo-kun, Is your work done already?"

"Yeah, I just finished it now. I'm getting lunch now"

"I also finished today's work too. Can I spend time with you later in the afternoon?"

"For magic practice?"

"Yes"

"Sure. But I would like to visit Anjou's house first"

"Great, but do you need anything with Dad?"

Anjou's house was built bigger than the other houses, it also became a place where the Village Chief works. Therefore, if you have any business in Anjou's

house, it's usually have to do with the Village Chief.

There was no problem that the village didn't have a separate town hall as the village chief have came from Anjou's family for generations, but what are they going to do if the village chief changed from a different family? Are they gonna change their house?

"I just want some little information from him. So can we practice after that then?"

"Yes!"

"Then I'll come by to your house later"

"I'll be waiting then"

Anjou waved her arms in a big way while I responded lightly as I'm going back home for lunch.

Lunch in the countryside is very simple. Since Mama works in the morning and can't prepare lunch, she had been making cheap pre-made lunch.

Sure enough, there is a sandwich on top of the table.

After eating heartily 2 to 3 mouthfuls, I'm went to change my clothes.

I have been farming using magic but still it's hard that I still got considerable dirt and sweat on me. Really, I hesitated to go to Anjou's house if I appeared as is.

I took out new clothes from the chest drawer and went outside. I scooped up a bucket of water from the water barrel, and dumped it all at once on my head, my spine tingled due to the cold water.

"Ooh, dang it's still cold"

I shook of the water from my hair, wipe my body with the clothes I wore earlier and changed to the one I brought with me. Though it didn't change much, but I felt really refreshed.

"Now then, time to go"

Anjou's house is near the center of the village. Although the village itself is relatively small. Houses are densely packed to some extent so it didn't take too

much time at all, it's true if visiting other houses too.

After walking for several minutes on a kid's feet, I arrived in Anjou's house. Its a wooden 2-storied house with a structure in the first floor sticking out, where the village chief works.

After I knocked the door for several times, I opened it. Of course it's not locked.

"Excuse me, sorry to disturb you!"

Then, Anjou rushed from the back of the hallway.

"Welcome Eldo!"

"Yo, been quite a while. Is the chief inside?"

"Yeah, he is in the office. I told Dad you're coming by, so just go in as is. "

"Thank you"

To be lead to the office is not needed since it's just right next to the entrance.

I knocked several times then entered the office.

"Excuse me"

"You've finally come"

Having greeted the village chief, he prompted me to sit at the table in front of him. Narrow eyes, Blonde hair with a streak of grey, wores glasses, calm and almost as old as Papa. So I can't imagine that this person was a rascal who ran out of the village to be an Aluminare Rider. Surely, I might just have misheard Papa.

Well, there may still be something related to Aluminare in the village chief's collection of books. I'll listen as much as I can.

"What business do you have for me today?"

"I want to know more about the Aluminare"

"Gohoogohooo ..... A, Aluminare you say?"

I cut to the chase, and the village chief suddenly cleared his throat.

"Yes, I just had an opportunity to see it a little while ago, I wanted to know

more details about it."

"Uhum, I see, Eldo-kun is a boy indeed. What do you want to know about Aluminare? How to become a knight? Or how is it built?"

Well, if possible everything you can tell about it, but for now I want to know how it operates and its internal structure"

If I know how it operates perhaps I can make the Aluminare move, If I understand the internal structure, with the amount of knowledge I dabbled in, I can do emergency repairs.

For many years it has been exposed to wind and rain, It would need maintenance to its various parts.

"Hmm, how to operate and internal structure. Well, it would be better if you read this book"

When the village chief stood up from his seat, he took one of the old books on the bookshelf and gave it to me. I received and read the words in the cover of the book.

"Aluminare Basic Introduction?"

"Yes. It is a textbook given to you if you attend an Aluminare Technical School. Basic things about the Aluminare is written there"

Oh, now that I possess a textbook, the discussion became serious.....

While breaking the former image of the village chief a little, I turned over the pages of the book to confirm its content. I can generally understand the alphabet of this world. As for the contents, It starts with the basic knowledge of the Aluminare, then it explained the various components and instruments in the cockpit, followed by the basic control process, how to read the various drive systems, the internal mechanical structure, and finally the brain of the Aluminare which is called the Sense Board.

I briefly scanned it but I'm already drooling with just this much information.

"This! May I borrow this!"

"Ah, I don't mind. Because I don't use it anymore"

Thank you very much! Please excuse me then"

I left the office while holding the book. Then, I saw Anjou waiting in front.

"Are you done talking?"

"Yes. Were you waiting? I was just about to call you"

"Hehehe, somehow you are in a good mood. Is that because of what you discussed with Dad?"

Anjou looked at the textbook in my hand.

"Yeah, its documents related to Aluminare"

"Aluminare?"

Anjou apparently still do not know anything about Aluminare. Well of course I would have also grown up without knowing it if I didn't accidentally found that machine.

"I will describe it later. Aside from that, are you ready to practice magic?"

"Yup"

Anjou and I headed to the place where firewoods are stored in the village outskirts. As one would have expect, you can't practice magic at your house and doing it near the forest is dangerous even if I accompany Anjou.

Also we were instructed by Papa and the Village Chief to use this place for practice.

The firewood storage was located between the village outskirts and the forest, villagers come here all the time to get firewood and the animals rarely approach this place.

Therefore this place here is relatively safe to practice magic.

I took a firewood and sat on it as a chair, since this place only has firewood stacked up to the roof of the storage.

"So, what kind of practice do you want today? Attack magics are useless since it has been banned by the Village Chief"

Anjou is good at using fire type magics, and honestly its more suitable to be an

attack magic than mine but, it has been strictly forbidden by the Village Chief and Papa to teach those. Certainly is would be bad if kids accidentally casted it. However, I remember there is one that is allowed for the sake of crime prevention. I will have to consult this together with the Village Chief and the villagers in the future.

"I know already. Let me see, Is there a magic such as to clean clothes or magic to lift things to the air? After working in the field terribly dirty, it would be convenient to have such magic"

"I see. Removing dirt might be a little bit difficult but, there is one to lift things"

"Really!?"

Anjou smiled brightly as she clung unto me.

I invoked my magic to one of the firewood, which was scattered around nearby, as my target.

#### "[Levitation]"

As I casted my magic, the firewood immediately started to float slowly.

"Wow! Amazing! You made it so easy!"

"Well, at first glance it's easy, but its still quite difficult you know? It's because all you have been taught previously is just to get a sense of it"

"Is that so?"

"Therefore, you have to designate the range and maintain the path"

Invoking magic on your body, like to lit up a flame on one's fingertip, is the basic of basics. In the case of making a fireball, you have to designate a range away from one's body like my [Air Shock Absorber] or [Air Cushion]. Then you have to maintain the path of magic by continuing to sustain your magic. For example when you cast a basic fire magic, once you started it, it will continue to burn without controlling it, that's not the case when it comes to levitating magic. It must be always be maintained by connecting your senses to control it. This is what maintaining the path means.

Anjou remembered more or less all the magic needed for each sequence,

although this is the first time she had performed all of it together. This is the culmination of all her knowledge.

"Ok, do it"

"Yes, [Levitation]!"

Anjou activated the magic. Then the firewood slowly floated, when it reached up to Anjou's waist, it dropped to the ground with a thud.

"Oh"

"There is no problem up to the designated range. Next, about the maintaining the path. Well, there is nothing you can do but to repeatedly practice it until you master it. Keep practicing, I'll be watching over you"

"Yes. Well then, [Levitation]!"

Anjou began practicing the **[Levitation]** Magic as I picked up the textbook beside me.

I can still keep observing her practice while reading.

I started to grin while reading the basic introduction.

"Eldo-kun! Hey Eldo kun! "

"Huh? Oh, I'm sorry"

I saw Anjou right in front of me when I looked up. Anjou glared at me while her cheeks became somewhat reddish.

"You told me you're gonna watch over me"

"My bad. I was just got a little bit occupied"

What can you say? The Aluminare Basic Introduction is very interesting. Since it's a textbook, you might thought that it's something boring, but I get excited on it as this was written like an instruction manual for a plastic model.

At first, I'm catching glimpse on Anjou's magic, but before I was aware of it, I' already got hooked on reading. Thanks to it, I have learned a lot of things about the Aluminare.

"Eldo-kun!"

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"Oh....."

"Look...... I can do it perfectly now"

"I see, Show me a little bit"

"I understand. So watch properly! [Levitation]! "
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The firewood slowly rose up and stopped right in front of Eldo. Now for the first time, there are no signs that it would fall to the ground or would fly up to the sky.

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"It seems to be stable"

"It's because I worked hard!"

"If that's the case, let's put it to practical use"

"Eh?"
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We still have time until evening comes. I'll let Anjou be happy for now, I'll just present her more challenges. This is mainly so I could read the textbook.

### "[Levitation], [Double Setup]. [Start]"

As I casted my magic, Anjou and a firewood apart from her, started to float. This is what I call, Mutli-Casting. I had considerable hardship to make this possible. Even now, I could only do a maximum of 4. With this, I have decided for Anjou to practice it until dusk.

While I was remembering those time, I saw something unexpected-

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"[Levitation], [Double Setup]. [Start]!"
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She can easily do it now as I do?..... Seriously?.....

You see, mutil-tasking is the main problem of Multi-Casting. Even during the modern age, I heard that women are good at multi-tasking. So does this mean that it is already expected for Anjou to be good at Multi-Casting?

"To be successful all of a sudden...... Well, let's see how much you can do in one go. If you carry the vegetables, will you able to do it more than one?"

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"Yes"
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"Use [Triple] for three, [Quadruple] for four, and [Quintuple] for five. By the

way, I can only use up to [Quadruple]"

"With hard work, I'm gonna surpass you Eldo-kun"

I'm afraid that she will seriously surpass me..... Oh well, for now she's gonna have to work hard.

Anjou ask for some guidance in casting [Triple], so I left my eyes from the textbook again.

At the end of the day, Anjou was successful in doing a [Triple] Multi-Cast.

"That's amazing. It took me one week to do it"

I wonder what's my weak and strong points are? But [Quadruple] seems to be really difficult"

"Im sure Anjou will be able to do it in the near future. It's possible to practice while doing field work"

"Ok. Thank you for today"

"Since I have more free time this week, just ask me if you feel like practicing"

"I understand. See you tomorrow then"

"Yeah, I'll see you tomorrow"

I went back to the house and ate dinner.

It has became a routine in this village that every family will finish their dinner before it becomes dark, and spend the night with the lanterns lit up afterwards.

Still, I can't read the book when the sun is totally gone.

While remembering what I had read today, I spent the rest of the night in my bed going to sleep.

The day has finally came at last.

When the morning sun came up, I was up as well. I washed my face with the water from the barrel and that made me feel refreshed.

It was a long time..... A really long time.

I was forbidden to enter the forest for a week. I was earnestly absorbed in reading the Aluminare Basic Introduction while helping on the field, I also helped Anjou's magic practice during that week. I was like a dog that was told to wait while baiting me with food, it sharpened my mind and soul.

That's what happened until yesterday. From today onward, I was permitted to enter the forest again.

Oooh, I really want to go and meet that robot again so fast. It was good luck that it didn't rain for a week, with the cockpit left opened, it would be well ventilated by now.

I took out the cleaning tools from the barn, I have placed it near the entrance of the house.

And when I went back inside the house, Mama was already preparing breakfast. It seems we will be having bread, fried eggs and bacon today.

"Let me help Mama"

"Oh? this is unusual. Eldo-chan is willing to help me?"

"I want to leave early to hunt. My arms are eager to go now"

"Really, such an impatient kid"

While Mama was smiling bitterly, she told me to set up the dishes.

As I was helping to prepare breakfast, Papa had appeared. He sat dawn while giving a big yawn. This time Papa has became a normal father, he doesn't have his usual glint in the eyes.

"Good morning Papa. What is today's target?"

"Eldo it's King Deer and Wild Fruit Boar. Since we are low on meats right now, you need to hunt 5 animals worth.

"I understand"

King Deer is a rare species of deer that lives in the forest, It looks like a unicorn because it only has one horn. It's usually gentle, but if you attacked it, it wont go easy on you. Well, it's not a problem for me since I can kill it in one blow.

Usually, wild boars are omnivorous but the Wild Fruit Boar only eats fruits to live, it's a herbivorous wild boar. That guy has an amazing habit, it climbs tree even though it's a wild boar because it has a small body, also the meat taste great since they only eat fruits.

When it comes to five animals worth, even if I match both at five each, will only take as short time so it wont be a problem. Those things are much easier compared to the humming birds previously.

"Good"

"Then, I'll have some food first"

I sat down when Mama brought over breakfast.

I quickly ate my breakfast within 10 minutes and got ready to go out. It's the usual hatchet and game bag, but this time my real prey is different from the game, it wont be used for it.

"Well then, I'm off"

"Be careful, ok?"

"Watch out for the valley"

I rushed out of the house, took the dustpan and broom, which I have placed near the front door and placed them inside my game bag.

I cheerfully replied to the villagers who approached to greet me, while I went to the entrance of the forest. When I arrived, Anjou was there.

"As expected, you're entering the forest very early"

Anjou stood in front of the forest,

"Oh come on. How come Anjou is here so early?"

"I thought it would be possible to help me with practice today. All I can say is this is a perfect timing"

"I see, but it's not a good time now. I'm going to be late coming back today"

"So, is this about that Aluminare?"

My heart jumped out when Anjou said those words.

No way, did Anjou knew that the Aluminare is over there?

But Anjou hasn't entered the forest and I haven't told anyone either. There is no way she knows. Did the Village Chief and his predecessor knew for generations that the Aluminare is there? If that's the case, It make sense that the current Village Chief wanted to become an Aluminare pilot. Also the Village Chief's family almost never enters the forest for hunting in the first place.

As I was thinking out a variety of guesses, Anjou had sighed once again.

"It is as I expected"

"Why does Anjou knew Aluminare is......"

"Just a hunch. I didn't knew I was right on the mark"

"A hunch?"

"I mean, you were absorbed on that book for a whole week, Eldo-kun doesn't really like hunting right? Until recently, when you enter the forest you look like its really tiresome for you. But today, you look really lively"

As she said so, I reflexively touch my eyes. It's still half-open.

"So what if your eyes are half close? Your eyes are still shining though. It's like probably the same way I feel when I used a magic for the first time"

"Seriously. Well, that might be so"

No way, my behavior since I found Aluminare was fully uncovered....... But it's hard to hate a childhood friend.

However, It can't be really helped if it has been noticed already.

"Well, you're generally right. When I fell down on the valley, I found a broken

Aluminare. And because it may still be able to move, It would amazingly be fun"

"Is that so..... Then I want to see it a little bit then"

Hmm, I never expect for Anjou to be interested in Aluminare. Although I'm glad to bring along Anjou inside the forest today, I'm still worried about taking her to the valley.

If I'm with her, we'll be able to stay away from the dangerous animals, but even with my help of movement type magic, it will still be harsh for her descending down the valley, also Papa and the Village Chief will not allow her to go.

"Then you need to practice movement type magic from now on and you must be able to perfectly master it. And if you get permission from the village chief, I'll bring you along"

"Really?"

"Yes. By the time I fix it so it could move, would you like it to ride together with me?"

"Yes"

Anjou happily nods. Seeing her like that, I also became happy.

If so, I will have to change the menu of the magic practice from now on.

"Then I'll do my best to practice alone today"

"I have high hopes for you. Well then, I will have to quickly finish my hunt"

"Good luck"

"You too"

I stepped back a little bit from Anjou, casted [Active Wing], and jump to the woods with [Aero Thruster].

After a long time since I casted [Aero Thruster], I felt some dullness in my sensation and my speed is weird. I have to quickly eliminate this dull feeling before I go hunting.

I eagerly advance towards the center of the forest as I kick on the branches of the tree. I made some serious effort in my hunting that I was able to finish it in the morning.

Regarding about the hunt this time, the number of deers were few and the wild boars were unexpectedly small to begin with. I was hunting wild boars when I found a deer by chance, with that I was able gather 5 animals worth of meat. Before the sun was high up, I was able to finish my hunt.

I carried all of the game to the Village Butcher shop, that marks the end of my work today.

The person at the butcher shop was surprised at my speed, but I didn't paid any attention to it. I delivered the game quickly, and went back to the forest again.

Thus, I headed towards the valley to look for the Aluminare.

I know the approximate position, however it can't be helped that I was zigzagging throughout the forest that there was some deviation now. When I reached it this time, I will have to put some marker on it somehow.

I arrived at the entrance to the valley after 10 minutes, and descended to the bottom by fully utilizing my magic.

Futhermore, after walking down along the river, I was able to return to the place where the Aluminare was located. It took me roughly 30 minutes to come here. It's surprisingly close.

"It's one week since then!"

The Aluminare sat proudly in front of my eyes, unchanged from a week ago.

I moved to the back of the neck with [Aero Thruster] and looked inside.

The smell —— seems to be ok now. The air had been completely replaced, it doesn't have the putrid smell anymore. It seems I have handle the dead person next.

I entered the cockpit and lightly touched the skeleton. Surprisingly, the bones itself are still solid as I was able to lift it as is.

Cleaning will become harder if the skeleton here will collapse and crumble. I thank that the dead person was healthy.

I carried out the bones one by one, any small bones left was respectfully collected using the dustpan and broom.

And I gathered all the bones together, placed it a cavity on the cliff and filled it up with soil to make a grave.

Because I do not know the name of the pilot, I did not wrote anything on a piece of wood that I stabbed on top of the grave. I tied down to the piece of wood, the ragged remains of their clothes, this would probably be a fair replacement.

I put my hands together, and performed a badly done Buddhist ceremony.

"I will now take your machine. No hard feelings, ok?"

The pilot might have wanted to make the machine its tomb, but you'll just have to put up with me.

I decorated the grave with the flowers that became fine in the forest, I then came back to the cockpit of Aluminare once again.

There are some control lever on each side and foot pedal below. Buttons are installed in the seat, various overhead instruments, and switches. The position of the levers is somewhat different from what was drawn in the Basic Introduction, but the shape is generally the same. This machine is from decades before, I feel insecure as the specification might have changed significantly———

"I understand if this is the case. So please work!"

I released the valve of the fuel tube that connects between the generator and the tank, the remaining level of the highly concentrated magical liquid called *High Magia Liquid* is at 60%. It looks like there is no leak. Probably got defeated quickly at the start of the battle. Lucky for me then. Because the left arm had came off, the energy supply valve there was probably not turned off.

I switched the state of the left arm to "purge" on the overhead console.

Ooh, it's irritating that my body is that of a child. To even do something like this, I wont be able to reached it if I don't stretched my body.

"Come on, go!"

I pushed the start button of the Aluminare. The button made a loud clank

when it sank, and the bottom of the seat made a low vibrating and whining noise. Various meters moved, and the energy supply rate rushed into the primary stable region.

"It worked!"

The monitor on the cockpit lit up, all 24 monitors that formed the front hemisphere of the cockpit showed the outside scenery. It seems an external camera was broken as some parts on the left side was dark. Well, it's not a problem.

But the Aluminare will not stand up the way it is now. It is still in idling condition.

That being the case, its only natural to rev up the generator to increase the energy supply to the secondary stable region, only then that the Aluminare will be in a start-up condition.

"Next is the start-up condition"

I carefully stepped on the foot pedal to increase the output of the generator.

The meter slowly rises, when it came halfway to the secondary stable region, a loud beeping warning sound abruptly sounded off within the cockpit.

What is it!? An Enemy? "

I looked at the monitor, but I didn't see anything that I consider to be one. On the contrary, there isn't even a falcon that used to circle around the sky.

So what is this warning sound?

In order to ascertain the cause of the abnormality, I pulled up all the possible information to the monitor.

No problem in the fuel. The generator is operating normally. Of course, that thing already went past primary stable region.

So which next parts had became useless?

I changed the information on the sub-monitor display installed on the seat from fuel system to fuselage damage table. That one displayed the whole body of the Aluminare, except for the lost left arm, in bright red. "Damn, so that is the cause"

Because the left arm was in a purged state, it was not displayed. The leg joints and various drive mechanisms are severely damaged.

Perhaps the gears and various things got broken due to the shock when it fell to the valley. Because it got damaged to the extent that it cannot move, I forcibly returned it to the idling state.

Well, it's to be expected if you thought about it normally. In a shock that cause the left arm to be severed, the joints wont be able to survive. Instead, the fuel system seems to be built considerably robust, all of it was miraculously safe.

"Really, it's no good if I don't repair all the joints"

This cannot be helped then. For the time being, it's good that the generator started. And it turned out to work somehow. I'll just have to repair this afterward. I do have a little bit of knowledge in me.

This heavy thing, even without heavy machinery, magic will cover for it.

The parts for this however, will just have to come from the left arm that was broken off. It must be compatible since it came from the same body frame.

Additionally, I might be able to request from the peddler some screws and gears.

Therefore from now on , I will need to earn some pocket money little by little. I will have to get 30% from the sales of the hunt, no let's go with 20%. If so, I'll be able to gather the parts in a few years. When the necessity arises, I will have to consider getting help from Anjou, though this would be a last resort. Parts that an amateur made will have some considerable defects, the other parts will be strained because of that, that's why it needs to be evaluated properly.

I pressed the start button again to turn off the generator. Although the remaining fuel is at 60%, assuming that from here on the generator will be repeatedly started, it doesn't hurt to minimize the usage of it.

I made sure that the generator has fully stopped, shut off the valve between the generator and the fuel tank, and went outside the cockpit.

"Hehehe, Hahahahaha"

A smile rose, then I laughed from the bottom of my heart.

I found it. The meaning of my reincarnation to this world.

Yeah, I was born in this world be able to pilot the Aluminare!

The let's do this thoroughly! I will repair the machine, remodel it, and convert it to a machine just for me and only me.

"Then let's prepare"

I stood on the shoulder and saw the light faded in Aluminare's face. I see some hope somewhere in that face.

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### << < Project Page> >>

7 years had passed since I discovered the broken Aluminare.

I'll explain roughly what had transpired since then.

When I first started, I repaired it from its current condition as much as possible.

The start-up condition of the Aluminare included an ability to diagnose the damage on it. By using it, I was able to locate the places that needs to be repaired before launching it.

However, almost all of the joints are no good. Since the back of it crashed on the cliff, there are some cracks on the pipe. And some cables were broken too.

In order to fix the backside, I had to make a hole in the cliff to repair it in place. So I had to momentarily postpone repairing that, and started repairing the individual joints first.

The armor is fully welded, as neither screws or bolts can be found. Therefore, I carefully cut it in pieces with wind magic so it would be easy to reassemble. My previous knowledge in plastic models was useful in this area.

I examined the frame of the Aluminare, which had been exposed, starting from its foot to pick up the broken parts. The parts from the left arm can be re-used on those places, If there is no tool to replace the parts, it would be impossible to inspect those places.

It took half a year to fully inspect the right leg. Three months on the left leg, three months on the right arm. Additionally it took three months to inspect the area around the body and the neck. I was able to inspect everything somehow.

In the meantime, I collected tools using the money I earned little by little from hunting.

A single kid tried to repair the Aluminare. If such a thing is known, there is a possibility that the villagers will feel weird about it. Therefore, I was negotiating

directly with the merchant unbeknownst to the villagers, which is quite hard.

After all, I was just a kid around 8 to 9 year old at that time. Such a kid is highly unlikely to want such special tools. Furthermore, purchasing metal pipes, tubes and cables from here on would be impossible not to be suspected.

Also the remote village by itself is a place were iron is scarcely used. The merchants will considerably be suspicious.

But conversely, I used the case that I was a kid.

They will believe that children that got attracted to Aluminare will try to build something similar to it.

There is little to doubt when shown the Basic Introduction and showing an innocent smile that was practiced, this got them convinced somehow. I was able to more or less pay with money diligently.

Thanks to that, it took 3 years to finish the repair with using all the parts of the left arm.

During those days, Anjou also came to help me with the repairs of Aluminare.

Anjou who practiced magic all the time, came along with me to the Aluminare to memorize the movement type magic.

Although she only had a small impression when she saw the Aluminare, she did like the place itself. Therefore, I sometimes accompany her to come to this place. Thus, she was able to help me with the repairs, by bringing me small tools and some other stuff.

What Anjou saved me the most was that she was able to use fire type magic. Her fingertips can easily produce similar flame as a gas burner. She will weld on spots where cracks appeared on the pipe. Without Anjou's help, I would have experienced a harder time to repair.

As time passes with this and that, today is the eight year.

At last, as much as possible, all the emergency repairs had been complete.

"Finally we did it woooooOOOO!"

"Congratulations Eldo"

I gave a roar while looking at the Aluminare while Anjou was clapping on the side.

Anjou had also grew up and is now 15 years old and she's brightly becoming more and more beautiful. Her hands that should have been working on the fields still remained soft, as she began to develop as a woman, her femininity became more obvious as well. She's already as tall as her mother, I'm sure Anjou will become more taller in the future.

"It's thanks to your help Anjou. Without you, it would take another 2 years"

"That's nothing. You were able to repair it this much because Eldo-kun worked hard. Putting that aside, are you gonna start the experiment?"

"Yeah, that's right. Then please evacuate to the top of the cliff Anjou. I don't know what will happen"

For a machine assembled by an amateur, there would be some some various defects.

Some armor might get blown off due to the defects when the machine starts to move, so the possibility that Anjou will not get caught up with that is not zero. Therefore, I had asked Anjou to evacuate to a safe zone.

"Ok. Good luck"

As Anjou said that, she let me go, ran to the riverbank, and began chanting.

## "[Flare Booster], [Double Installation]. [Start]"

And then, two transparent boosters appeared across the waist of Anjou. This is her basic movement type magic.

She accelerates by bursting out flame from the two boosters.

She is already accustomed to climbing the cliff, she waved at me when she reached the top.

And as for me, I boarded the cockpit of Aluminare.

"Now then, please start up successfully"

I opened the fuel valve with familiar hand movements, and pushed the start button. Various meters started moving, and a low vibration came from under the seat.

Everything was familiar up to here. I have repeated these steps a hundred times in eight years.

And from here on out, will be the first operation. Probably because of the tension, I wiped my sweat which started to appear with my hand, I then slowly depressed the foot pedal.

The output of the generator was increasing, the needle of the meter was gradually rising to the top. The first time I did this, it threw up an error along the way.

I glaringly stared at the meter as I confirmed that the needle is now beyond the middle point.

I stepped on the pedal furthermore to raise the output.

"Go! Go! Go! Go!"

As the output rises, the sound within the machine changed in a big way.

While it was making a sound like that of a jet engine, the needle of the meter had entered the second stable region.

"Awaken! Aluminare!"

For the first time, I pushed the launch button.

"How's that!"

I checked every sorts of meters while maintaining it in the second stable region, All joint parts where not in the all green condition, it is possible to operate this in all yellow condition somehow. Mobile head camera, start. No abnormalities in the various hydraulic parts. The *Gyro Balancer* is in normal operation. *High Magia Liquid* is at 10 percent remaining. Estimated operating time, 5 hours.

"YES! It booted up!"

It started up without any problems in the systems! All kinds of meters didn't display any errors. With the data provided, the Aluminare can move!

Then, there is only one thing left to do.

I have to make this move.

"Let's start with the right hand"

I slowly operated the hand control lever.

The right arm slowly rose with creaking sounds, and I levelled it parallel to the ground.

If I press the buttons on the lever, each fingers moved sufficiently.

"I, I'm moving the robot! I'm piloting the humanoid robot!"

Excitement was overflowing out from the bottom of my heart.

I just noticed that tears are falling down from my eyes. 8 years of unswerving determination. At last I have reached it.

"There are still reserve energy left. So, let me see you stand up"

If its possible, I would like to replenish the *High Magia Liquid*, but it's only made on a special factory managed by the country, so it's not possible to refuel. So, even though I have been minimizing the usage, it has been greatly reduced. When its actually moving, I don't know how much fuel it will consume, 10 percent is probably tight number to satisfactorily move this. But there should be no problem as I just want the machine stand for now.

I have never practiced the maneuver to stand, but the method was written down in detail on the Basic Introduction.

I have completely memorized the contents of the book. I'm at a level now where I can recite it from memory.

So it's gonna be alright. As long as I do what the book says, I can operate it successfully. If I make some slight mistake, the *Sense Board* should be able to compensate.

"While pushing the foot pedal, raise the slot by one foot"

I completely followed the transmission procedure step by step as outlined by the training manual.

The Aluminare began to move its foot accordingly but slowly.

Pulled the right foot, supporting with the left foot, slowly standing up while

leaning the upper body forward.

Although the balance is off because there is no left arm, the *Gyro Balancer* and the *Sense Board* are correcting it automatically.

The field of vision inside the cockpit is slowly rising, the range of what can be seen is extending little by little.

Its trying to stand up from one knee after all.

"Stand up!"

I shouted inadvertently as I was doing the last procedure. As if responding to it, the Aluminare stood up vigorously.

"I did it!"

It might not be a great step for mankind, but it was a great step for me.

Looking at Anjou, she jumps and hops down the cliff. I'm filled with unexplainably strong emotion.

I then operated an overhead switch to activate the microphone and speakers.

These two are magics. Speaking of how they work, the magic was recorded in the Sense Board, and it activates by consuming the *High Magia Liquid*.

It may closely resemble a beam weapon in the modern age.

The Aluminare can only activate magic that was recorded in the *Sense Board*, however, since it uses *High Magia Liquid*, the scale is too big that it cannot be compared to a human activating the same magic.

As for capacity, since the *Sense Board* can be rewritten in various ways, I wanted to make an original machine. Unfortunately most of the things about the *Sense Board* was not written in the Basic Introduction. Since it's the brain of the Aluminare, I might need a more technical knowledge.

"Anjou, can you hear me?"

"Fwee!? Eldo-kun's voice became loud!"

"I can hear you voice from there too. It's this guy's magic"

"It's amazing that such a thing can be done. Leaving that aside,

congratulations! You were able to finally launch it"

"Yeah, this is all today for the time being. After this, I'm going to do more checks to make sure there are no abnormalities"

I want to move it more somewhere, but this machine was repaired from a state which this guy wasn't able to move. Though it succeeded in standing, something might be going on in places I can't see.

I have repeatedly exercised caution after caution, I must operate this under thorough safety management.

"Roger that. I'm going there then"

"Ok"

I opened the hatch and went from the cockpit to the shoulder.

The view I have seen so far have risen by about 4 meters, It feels like as usual and special at the same time.

Anjou jumped off from there.

"Congratulations again"

"Thanks. It's thanks to your help Anjou"

"I greatly appreciate it. So, give me something to show your utmost gratitude"

"I was thinking about what would you like"

A very big gift has been requested. What kind of gift would be equivalent to my dream that was fulfilled? What should I prepare?

Oh well, I will really keep thinking about it.

"Now then, I will have to start the maintenance"

"Ok"

I jumped down from the machine, and started to check it.

In a quiet forest, a giant footsteps can be heard from far away.

Slowly walking step by step, group of soldiers at the giant's foot are matching the pace.

A total of 20 soldiers made up the group, all of them were riding on a horse and wearing the same body armor dyed in black.

"Will there be really a village ahead?"

A large man taking the lead glared at the slender man tied down on a horse beside him.

The slender man was frightened at the glare as he answered with trembling voice.

"Yes, Yes. It's a small farm village, I go there once a month to sell stuff....."

"And during that time you sold iron, copper wires and special screwdrivers?"

"Yes..... it is so"

The slender man was a merchant who was selling merchandise regularly to Eldo's village.

"No matter how you put it, aren't you just overthinking this too much Captain? That someone is building an Aluminare in a remote village"

A voice was heard from above, it came from A black Aluminare with a shining red line.

It was still a young and cheerful voice.

"There is a deep valley beyond the village. Previously, that place was a frontline, dividing this country into north and south due to some rebellion. It wont be a ridiculous story if there are still some Aluminare remaining. If you believe the story of this merchant, you'll expect there are some that will be in fairly good condition. It's possible that the generator is still functional. It was fortunate that I was able to obtain this information before the army of this country could have. You have my gratitude merchant"

"Hic....."

The merchant, who by chance spilled that he was selling machine parts in the remote village in a tavern, was deeply regretting it even though it was too late

already.

There is only one organization in this whole world where they can operate Aluminare that is not connected to any country.

It's the large-scale mercenary group, *de Liverpool*.

It doesn't have a home country, nor have a base, it doesn't even have a top leader. A dangerous group where each one are independent and driven by their own beliefs and greed.

You can volunteer to be part of *de Liverpool* as long as you follow the their law. It's existence is closer to a guild so to speak.

Those who participates in wars, those that provoke wars, and those who robs in wars, they made wars their livelihood, there is no common point other than living in wars. Therefore, any country had difficulties with dealing their existence.

"To get a hold of something like that, Captain will become an influential person at once! We will also receive the money gleefully"

"It's only natural. There is no military unit in de Liverpool possessing two Aluminare machines. We will get it and be the leading unit, and the *Elshard* unit will gain fame as a mercenary"

"I have done an excellent work, so please don't forget my reward. It's not—"

Suddenly, the right hand of the Aluminare reached the hilt of the sword and swung the sword in a smooth pattern.

Despite moving a huge mass, it only generated a slight breeze. The horses in particular didn't mind it and just continued marching.

However, one of the men in the rear intentionally screamed suddenly.

"Wah, Aaaaaaahh!"

"What happened?"

"My, my horse's head"

The subordinate riding on that horse was shakingly pointing towards the neck of the horse. The head has been completely cut as if it wasn't there to begin with.

However, the horse appeared to not have noticed that its head was sliced off and still continues to walk carrying the man even though it doesn't have a head anymore. Soon enough, it tripped and fell down from a root of a tree that was protruding from the ground.

The man who was riding it wasn't able to stand up from that spot anymore due to fear.

"Verze!"

"Ahaha, it's just a little bit of entertainment. But you understand it right?"

"I know! I will prepare the best battlefield for you"

"Then that's good. As long as you give me a place to fight, I will continue to follow the Captain"

The voice that could be heard coming from the Aluminare is clearly innocent. It's because of that innocence that it was able to conceive a tremendous madness striking terror into the hearts of the group.

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### << < Project Page> >>

After launching a successful experiment that day, Anjou and I had came under the Aluminare once again.

It was not possible to repair the rump until now since it was in a sitting position.

I was able to repair the backside by carving a space on the cliff that I can crawl into. As expected you will also need to create a space at the bottom of the Aluminare to repair the rump, but since there was a possibility that it will lose its balance and crash, I didn't start working on it.

Therefore, only the rump was still heavily damaged when it stood up, it looks really bad.

"OK, first of all"

"We have to clean of the mud and rust"

"It is as you said"

As one would expect for the last 8 years, it was troublesome to bring the tools from the village every time. Also, there are repairs that wasn't completed in a day, so a shed was built which would also protect the tools from rain.

I used a crevice on the cliff for the shed, it was simple but big enough to store tools and stuff.

I took the cleaning tools from there and fetched some water in the river.

"It seems I have to clean of the hardened mud first"

"Yup"

Compressed by the weight of the Aluminare for years, peeling off the mud was unexpectedly hard as it was as hard as a rock.

I clung on to the waist frame of the Aluminare gracefully with one arm, straddled by the foot and pulled down the mud with my available hand.

The surface easily crumbles, but as I get closer to the frame I had to use more strength.

The tough things to beat are the thin leftovers. So it was Anjou's turn.

"Anjou, will you please?"

"Yes, Yes~"

Anjou was waiting at the foot with a shovel in hand and activated a magic.

Anjou's [Flare Booster] is a movement type magic similar to my [Aero Thruster], but with one big difference. That is, it can hover on the spot.

My [Aero Thruster] lets me jump up by using the shock from an instant burst of air, as for the [Flare Booster] it's literally equipping a booster on your waist with power continuously operating. Therefore aside from hovering, you can freely make turns in the air while flying which gives it an edge. But on the other hand, I don't spend my magic to maintain speed, there are enough advantages to make it up for it.

Anjou went up to my position while hovering.

"I'm here to help"

"Then step aside for a bit"

"OK"

I released my hand from the frame and jumped off to the ground. Anjou then raised the shovel.

"Here we go!"

With a cute yell, she swung the shovel towards the Aluminare downward.

With a violent sound, the shovel strongly struck the frame that it made a dent.

"One more time!"

When she swung the shovel once more, the dent on the frame grew bigger.

If it was a brand new Aluminare, it would probably had screamed already, There was a reason for this however.

If the mud is hard and doesn't come off, you should move the softer one.

By warping the frame, it made some space between the mud and easily peeling it off. If it's beaten to such extent, as long as I don't see it I don't mind it. Because the machine itself was already beaten up before, having one or two more small dents now is insignificant.

In the meantime, the mud began to come off.

"Anjou, It's about time!"

"Yes~"

She lowered the shovel and moved away from the Aluminare while hovering. After I confirmed that she's away, I shot an [Air Blast] towards the mud. When the gap between the mud and the frame was hit, the mud crumbled off.

"Great, next is the rust"

"I have prepared the brush"

"We just have to scrape it off as much as we can"

There was no other way but to scrape off the rust as much as possible. Anjou and I kept scrubbing off the rust diligently.

When the sun went down, we stored back the tools and proceeded through the road back to the village.

Although calling it a road, it's just a trackless path made of branches sticking out at the side of the cliff.

Anjou is already used to operating the flare booster as she slips through between the branches. Sometime she will walk since there seems to be a time limit on her magic.

If possible I would like a magic that let me stay afloat, but with wind magic its difficult to stay afloat without sufficient endurance.

And if I'm going to make the scale too large, it would become a tornado. Likewise, the amount of energy to maintain the fire is tremendous.

Anjou came to my side and then.

"Stop for a moment Eldo"

"Huh?"

When I stopped on the a branch, Anjou rose up to the sky and was carefully looked towards the direction of the village.

"There is something strange going on in the village. The people are gathering on the plaza"

"Did the merchant arrived?"

Shopping from the merchant was one of the very few amusement the villagers had. Therefore, every time the merchant comes, all the villagers will certainly gather on the plaza. It certainly is strange for the merchant to come so soon, it's a little early for it.

"Something is different. Is that..... A black Aluminare?"

"Aluminare!? And it's black!?"

This is strange. The frame of the Aluminare of this country is completely painted in silver, and there is a double-headed lion on the left side of the chest as the symbol of the kingdom.

For this reason, there shouldn't be a black Aluminare in this country. Even the neighboring country that always fight against this country had a different color.

So, I could only think of it as a free Aluminare. But that's supposed to be highly impossible.

The *High Magia Liquid*, which is the energy source of the Aluminare, is only produced by factories controlled by the country. No, to say it accurately, because the country was keeping the technology a secret, they can't certainly produce it.

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"I want to see a little bit too"
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"Eh, even if you said that"

"Just support me so I'm just gonna hold on to you"

"Ho-hold on to me!?"

"Hurry up!"

"I... alright"

Anjou was blushing as she came down.

I was getting impatient so I clung unto Anjou and jumped up to the sky with [Aero Thruster].

"Hiyaaaaaa! Don't jump so suddenly!"

"Listen up, just activate your booster"

"Hmmp...."

Anjou started the booster and we are descending slowly. It's OK if it's Anjou alone, but it certainly was difficult for her to also support my weight, so we can't stay on the air.

Therefore, I added my support.

### "[Pinpoint Cyclone]"

The wind rolled up into a whirlpool under my feet, and leads our body up to the air. In doing so, we have finally hovered on the air.

"Is that it?"

I can surely see the black Aluminare in the depths of the forest.

The feet are hard to see but I immediately recognized it because it stood taller than the tree from the waist up.

"If it doesn't belong to a country, then where......"

"How are we going to do this?"

"I will have to investigate carefully. But I have a hunch something bad is happening, so Anjou should wait here in the forest"

That must not be a regular army. It's obvious that Aluminare is a powerful military force, but it does not mean that having one will make the group respectable.

Well yeah, I also have that much military power, but hey, you're allowed that much as a reincarnated person and above all my Aluminare is not a weapon.

Anyway, it's necessary to investigate the group that has that.

I left Anjou in the forest and hurried to the village.

I stopped just right before the village and checked the situation from the

bushes, there are men in black armor going in the village, something was said to the villagers in the plaza.

I can't hear them from this distance as expected, but if I use magic.

### "[Sound Collect]"

"So you don't know anything?"

"Yes, I didn't knew the merchant were selling such things either"

"Then where is the kid now?"

"He went to the forest to play, but since the day is coming to an end, he will back soon....."

That was the conversation between the Village Chief and some man in armor. The merchant was near, was I ratted out? If my guess is correct, their aim will be my Aluminare.

That silly idiot made this troublesome.

With that said, the Village Chief, who aimed to be an Aluminare pilot in the old days, should notice that they aren't a regular army. So why is he very friendly?

No, it's different. If you observe closely, the Village Chief seems to be a little bit flustered. He seems to be pretending not to notice.

If the other party was a bandit, the villagers would probably be massacred if they got found out. So he is feigning ignorance on purpose? It's a good thing I learned piloting the Aluminare. Although it's a different level from the Village Chief.

"Who are the parents?"

"We are"

Papa and Mama step forward from among the villagers. Then the armored men instinctively reached for their swords because they were frightened by the menacing gaze of Papa.

If they had pulled it out, I would have immediately dashed out, but a man who seemed to be their leader admonishes his subordinates.

"I'm sorry my men were rude"

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"It's OK, since Papa's face is scary"

"Pfft...."
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The villagers hid their laughing faces at Mama's answer. Papa had an embarrassed expression. Oh well, the armor wearing group was still frightened.

They can't move. I must hear their talk.

"Did you know the parts were are talking about were bought by your son?"

"No, because that kid can do anything by himself. We know nothing in particular"

"Then did you notice anything unusual?"

"About that— Ah, It was 8 years ago that he suddenly wanted to have some pocket money. There is little use for pocket money in this village"

"I see"

That commanding officer was unexpectedly listening to the story politely. I'm glad nothing happened yet to the villagers, but honestly it puts me in a bind. There's nothing to oppose them.

If I'm asked to hand over the Aluminare which I personally operate, I see no reason to refuse.

If the bandits attack, I might be able to defend, but after that it will be scary. It's possible there will be rampage on the village and the villagers will get hurt. I don't want to selfishly do this by myself......

Rather, if the village was devastated by the bandits, I will brazenly board the Aluminare.

"So where can I possibly find this old Aluminare? But if I will believe the story, you're saying that an 8 year old kid was fixing the Aluminare"

"That kid is intelligent since he was young"

"That's right. He was helping us in hunting while using magic when he was 5 years old"

"Really, you have such a wonderful son"

No no! Don't speak too friendly......

Do I have to check at them from a different angle?

"Our child loves the Aluminare. If he sees this black Aluminare, he will surely fly back here immediately"

"Is he familiar with the Aluminare?"

"Yes, he was absorbed in reading a national textbook that he got from the Village Chief, so he was able to examine the Aluminare in various ways"

"Really"

The voice of the commander became stern as he glared at the Village Chief. With that, the surrounding men moved slightly.

Aa, the Village Chief was enduring it.... his face was becoming pale.

This is bad. Since I know a lot about the Aluminare, they are now aware that it's possible for me to notice that the black Aluminare is not normal.

The action taken by the bandit that understood their cover has been blown was——

"It's necessary to change strategy. All members, arrest them!"

"I've waited long enough!"

"This is what I wanted since the beginning!"

"The captain became irritated!"

All the men in armor pulled out their sword together and pointed it at the villagers. The villagers didn't understood the sudden change in situation so they screamed.

"Wa, Why it has to be this way!"

"There is a possibility that the kid knows this Aluminare was modified. So, I'm gonna make you into hostages quickly"

"For that reason. All women must be over that house, for the men go to this house! If you disobey you will not be forgiven!"

It happened after all. Just as I was about to dash out from the bushes, there

were rustling of bushes behind me then Anjou appeared.

"Eldo-kun"

"Why did you come here Anjou?"

"They have companions in the forest also. I came to inform you since they seem to be looking for you"

"I see, however this is great timing. All of them are bandits. We have to go rescue the villagers since they were all caught"

"I understand. So, what will we do?"

"You go to the house were the women are kept and explain to them the situation. Then, I will begin to rampage, the armored men will come to me and you crush them with a surprise attack. go for at most 10 people. Can you do it?"

"Of course. 10 people are not a big deal"

Within 8 years, Anjou increased her Multi-Cast by up to 13. Thinking about it, I can only do up to 6, is this the difference between genders as expected? Or it this just simply Anjou's talent? Oh well, either way is good. Anjou can Multi-Cast and climb to a place higher than I can ever reached. But I'm still stronger if it's about application of magic. Since she doesn't have sophisticated reincarnated knowledge.

"When you defeat the armored men, gather Papa and the rest of the villagers and take refuge in your house. If possible, cooperate and tie the bandits up"

"I understand, but what about you Eldo?"

"I will hold that guy down"

I glanced at the black Aluminare. If I don't hold him in check, the bandits will keep fighting forever. It just shows that the Aluminare is a strong military asset.

That's why as long as I keep it down, their morale will surely drop.

"Be careful"

"Don't be careless too. The opponents are more or less professional killers"

"I understand. There is nothing more scary than being wounded. Therefore, I know my limits"

During hunting, nothing is more dangerous than a wounded animal. Even herbivores will attack you without question. Anjou fully understood it after she learned magics and started helping me and Papa during the hunts.

"Then, I'm going"

I came out from the bushes, while using the expanding shadow the evening sun, I approached the house where Papa and the rest had been gathered.

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There are two armored men at the door of the cabin. It seems there are no other guards nearby. Well, since the villagers are unarmed, they considered that the villagers wont oppose them. Assuming there are also two at the women's cabin. I would also like to know the personnel stationed in other places.

There were five people in the plaza a while ago, and three people were in the forest according to Anjou. Together with the commander and the pilot of the Aluminare, it adds up to 14. Considering the size of the defense perimeter, I estimate it was more or less 20 people.

For now, I should make contact with Papa and his group over at that cabin.

I dug the ground behind the cabin and made a small tunnel. The trick was possible because the cabin doesn't have a foundation.

And so, I knocked lightly on the wooden wall.

I expect a person inside should be able to notice it. And on top of that to let them know its me, I will shove something into the hole.

So I crumpled my game bag to make it small and toss it into the hole. Then, I could hear some noise inside.

"Are you there Eldo?"

"Are you OK Papa? I'm sorry, because of me you got unexpectedly involved"

"I'll scold you later, however they are—-"

"I know, I heard you guys talking at the plaza. Anjou already went to Mama"

"Stop doing something dangerous. Anjou should quickly go to the highway under the village and should seek for help"

"We don't have time"

The bandits have an Aluminare. Only another Aluminare can oppose it. However, all of the country's machines that are in the Royal Capital and major cities were possibly defending the border, so there is no way one is located in the countryside. If I'm gonna wait for help, Papa and the rest doesn't know when it will come, and my Aluminare will be stolen before helps arrive.

Therefore, me and Anjou must do something.

"I will hear as much sermon you will give, but for now follow my instructions. I will make a scene after this to attract the enemies away. Then, Anjou will lead Mama's group out, join up with them and barricade yourselves in the Village Chief's house. Ask Anjou for more details"

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"Hey, Eldo! Wait!"
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"Well then, I'm going!"

Papa raised his voice reflexively, but without the eyes to match it, Papa was not scary at all. Although it will be hard, I have ways to make them move.

The men who are guarding knocked on the door when Papa raised his voice.

I approached the men from the rear and hit them with [Air Blast] from point blank range with all my power.

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"Na!" "Gua!"
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With a heavy thud sound, it seems their armor got dented, the men were blown off to the air, and fell down.

The power of my magic rose up significantly as well.

"What!"

"What's wrong!"

Oops, this was not good. I must spread out the diversion quickly.

"You there, why don't you take my machine anytime you want!"

"That's the kid in question!"

"That kid!"

Reacting to the voice, the men who were guarding the surroundings had gathered.

I fired off another [Aero Blaster] towards the corner.

"The opponent is using magic! Be careful!"

"Capture him alive!"

"Use the hostages!"

Several people went immediately to the cabin where the women are. There were only few of them surprisingly. Should I be a little bit more threatening? Sure. If it reduces Anjou's burden, then its better to do it.

"[Fire Ball]!"

"[Water Lance]!"

Among them, two people fired off their magic at me. Because I don't want to kill them, it seems I have to weaken my magic. However, it wont even reach me.

# "[Pinpoint Cyclone]!"

I used the magic that I used a while ago, instead of being a foothold, it became a shield I raised the power of the tornado compared to before, the water lance, and the fireball too, was easily negated.

"Tsk, that kid is used to using magic"

"Is it because he is always hunting? This is a hassle. Go crush his spirit. He won't die if we aim for his arms and legs"

Hey, hey, is it such a good idea to be sloppy? A human being will die from shock if got hit by a powerful magic.

While thinking what to do, there was a column of fire rising from the direction of the cabin where the women are.

"If it's Anjou, she'll be coming here"

Anjou should be joining them here anytime soon. So I have to handle my task precisely.

"Sleep together. [Air Squash], [Sextuple Setup]. [Start]!"

Men collapsed to the ground immediately as if something fell down with an intense sound.

"Now then, what's left?"

When I looked up, the black Aluminare nearby approached immediately.

"You're interesting!"

"A kid?"

"I can say the same thing about you. More importantly, do you think you can do something about it by doing something like this? There's an Aluminare here you know?"

"I have to do something since I might get killed. So I'm going stop you"

"Then entertain me as much as possible!"

The enormous sword was swung down. I dodged it using [Aero Thruster].

The sword which smashed to the ground, kicked up the surrounding soil loudly. I blew it off towards the Aluminare.

The cockpit of the Aluminare had 24 monitors on the front. Because there are cameras equipped on the foot and arms of the Aluminare, I must cover the whole thing is I'm going to blind him.

"Oh, the camera huh?"

"Blinding another one is just basic tactic. So!"

I used [Active Wing] and [Aero Thruster] and dashed underneath the Aluminare in one go, jumped straight up and clung unto the back.

"I see, you're aiming for the cockpit!"

"Because it's easier to beat up people than striking iron"

"It is certainly so, but it seems you are not familiar with all the weapons of the Aluminare!"

"What?"

Just after that, my body was assailed by the sense of being gently lifted up, when I noticed it, I was thrown off from the Aluminare.

"Just, just now....."

"Anti-personnel magic, [Shock Gravitas]. Just like now, it's a magic that deals with people that clings occasionally. It's now a standard equipment of the

machine, however—"

"Sorry but I didn't receive formal training"

I controlled the attitude of the Active Wing so I could land. I have been blown off this far surprisingly, perhaps this was good. This leads towards the forest, I can lure him to the location of my machine.

"Captain, I found the kid, what's next?"

"Catch him alive. I will catch that girl"

"Roger that. Please catch that kid"

Since the captain was particular about catching me, I will survive. Since they will lose the information on where the Aluminare was if they killed me, and would also slow down the search afterward. Furthermore it was more thrilling to do a game of tag.

Oh well, my opponent in this game of tag was an armed group, if they have more personnel, they will be able to quickly catch me and get the information they needed. Describing the forest in one word, it would be "vast". Especially that the machine was hidden by the shadow of the valley by now, they would considerably had a hard time searching for it.

"Can you easily catch me?"

I turned back and leaped into the forest. The Aluminare chased me as expected.

Magic will help me as it comes after me. The Aluminare had big strides, the distance that I covered by several steps was cut down to one.

Even with the full use of the [Active Wing], it would easily catch up to me if I don't maintain top speed.

"It's an amazing magic you have there. To be able to do that much with just your body"

The sword descended with a swoosh and cut down the trees.

Such small talk while doing such action!

"[Wind Cutter], [Double Setup]. [Start]!"

"Haha, it's pointless, it's futile"

The **[Wind Cutter]** I fired off in desperation only lightly damaged the armor of the Aluminare. Of course, unless it's another Aluminare, you can't oppose the Aluminare.

Casting the [Aero Thruster] at full throttle, I decided to focus earnestly on trying to escape.

"Phew, to think that the opponent was just this much huh?"

As Anjou defeated the men who came toward the cabin, she unintentionally murmured how disappointing it was.

"Whoops, not good, not good. it's when my guard is down that it's most dangerous"

She followed Eldo's instruction and put up her guard back. Then she confirmed that there were no more reinforcement before she went to the women's cabin.

"Anjou-chan, why did you do something dangerous?"

"That's right, why didn't you hide?"

Anjou's mom, Eldo's mom, and the rest of the women from the village unanimously worried over Anjou, but she just ignored it all and gave directions.

"Let's talk about this later. For now let us join with father and the rest. Because Eldo-kun expects us to be over there"

"So Eldo-kun said it like that"

"Eldo-chan...."

Eldo's mom looks like she was about to cry at any moment as she was crushed by anxiety.

"Please mother, auntie. Come and follow me.

"Hmmp, I'm gonna give you a sermon later"

"Yup"

Anjou took the lead and the women followed afterward, their faces showed anxiety.

Anjou returned to the plaza and discovered a bunch of men collapsed.

"Eldo-kun, you"

As soon as she determined that it was Eldo's doing, she searched where was Eldo located.

Eldo was squaring off with the Aluminare near the forest. Then, he heard a man's voice "I will catch that girl"

Anjou realized that the girl the voiced talked about was herself, and saw the person the voice belongs to. There, the man leading them was accompanied by several men.

"Mother, go with the rest to where Father was detained. Because it doesn't seem to have anymore soldiers over there except them"

"I understand"

"Are you sure.....?"

"I have faith in Anjou"

"Go ahead then. It would be troublesome if the aunties are here"

With the angry look of Anjou, the women reluctantly went to the cabin in a hurry.

The leader just merely let them pass.

"Was that OK? Just letting them go"

"I will only catch you kid, they can do whatever they want. They had served their purpose in the first place"

"Really, but I'm not that easy to catch"

"Hmph, you seem to be able to use some magic, I will crush that arrogance. You guys, get her"

The men nearby took out their sword, chanted some skills aimed towards Anjou.

Essentially, magic is best countered with another magic, but Anjou lowered her stance and braced herself, there was no sign she was to invoke a magic.

"[Mist Area]!"

"[Air Cutter]!"

"[Ice Lance]!"

A man generated a fog to take away the visibility of the surroundings.

A blade of wind and a lance of ice was fired off, aiming at Anjou, after that.

She then fired off a [Fire Ball] as a counterattack towards the direction where the attack came.

Anjou rolled over to dodge without using magic.

She then fired off a **[Fire Ball]** as a counterattack towards the direction where the attack came.

But there was no response from the [Fire Ball].

"Hiding within the fog. Even so"

If she can't see them, she just have to drive it away.

"[Blast Fire], [Triple Setup]. [Start]!"

Three places on the ground surrounding Anjou, together with her chant, made a loud noise and it blew off. A shock wave spread all around and dispersed the fog all at once.

"I though so!"

Three men jumped out from the dispersed fog.

The men were waiting for Anjou to make a bold move of blowing off the fog.

The men were about to slash Anjou, swung down their sword with absolute confidence. However, the sword that was swung towards Anjou didn't even reached her.

Anjou changed the angle of the [Flare Booster] horizontally, and move along the ground immediately.

"Wha, What is that?!"

## "[Fiiiireee]! [Knuckle]!"

Immediately after that, Anjou revved up her [Flare Booster] and rushed towards the front of the man with her flaming fist.

The first went straight through the man's jaw and he fell down unconscious. Furthermore, with the momentum of the [Flare Booster], she punched the solar plexus of another man.

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"That's two down"
"This girl!"
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The soldier panicked and swung his sword recklessly. But, such sword cannot hit her, the sword only stroked empty air and left front wide open.

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"[Fire Lance]!"
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"Gua"

"Third one"

In an instant, she defeated 3 people using magic. However, there were no signs that she was being pursued further. And then, a clapping sound rang out.

"I see, no wonder you had such self-confidence. You seemed so accustomed in anti-personnel battle"

"It's because I practiced so much with Eldo-kun.

I got accustomed to fighting with people"

"I see, even I would have a little bit of a hard time with this"

"But there is still a big gap right"

"Of course. We have an Aluminare here. If that kid gets caught, you won't be able to resist either"

"IF... he gets caught"

Anjou doesn't think Eldo will get caught in the slightest. For eight years that she learned movement type magic, she wasn't able to catch Eldo even when using all she got.

How much more with someone piloting an Aluminare? Eldo will never get

caught.

But, she had no intention to let this standoff last forever. She had to show the brave Eldo that she can beat the enemy quickly.

"It's painful for me not to be at Eldo-kun's side"

Anjou created a flaming sword and was about to slash at the leader.

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I steadily guided the black Aluminare towards valley while running around in the forest. If possible, I would like to pushed it down into the valley, but when I saw the opponent's maneuvering technique, somehow it was unlikely that I be able to do it. It would be a battle between Aluminares as expected.

"Hey, it's time to give up"

"As if I could do that. What about you? How about you give up"

"It's the captain's order, I can't disobey him!"

"Although you are the one piloting the machine"

If he threatens them using the Aluminare, he would be able to control all the underlings. By the way, I'm surprised that the one riding the Aluminare was not the captain. Is he really that trustworthy or was the captain's piloting skill that bad?. Well, that guy sure was skillful.

"It's because things such as supplies and maintenance are left to the underlings. If I betray him, I'll just probably be cornered right away. But, if I do not betray him, he will let me join on a lot of fun battles. So there's no reason to betray him, right?"

"You're a battle freak!!"

"That phrase sound fun. I will call myself that from now on. Battle Freak Felouche, please take care of me until you die"

"I wont introduce myself here!!!!"

"You don't have to since I already know. Eldo-kun!"

A large number of Ice Spears emerged around the Aluminare. Each one of the spears was probably 5 meters long. Even if just one of those grazes me, I will be turned into a lump of meat.

Well, because it's an anti-Aluminare magic system I guess it's to be expected.

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"Go!"
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"Shit!"

Ice spears rained down on the forest with a rumbling sound and smashed the trees like breaking twig with creaking sound. And then, one of the trees fell down in front of me and blocked my path.

I jumped towards the sky to avoid it.

"I can finally see you!"

As soon as the Aluminare discovered me, it extended it's arm. At this rate, I would get caught. But it wont be easy to catch me.

"[Air Block], [Quintuple Setup]. [Start]!"

Starting from my feet, several blocks appeared in the air. Using them as foothold, I evaded the Aluminare's hand with [AERO THRUSTER].

From the point of view of my opponent, it would seem like I was running in the sky.

Even the guy that calls himself Felouche raised a voice full of surprise.

"Amazing! It's really amazing yo! It's the first time I've seen a child evade like this!"

"I am doing this with my life at stake! Our resolve are different!"

"Ha Ha, well then, do your best to flee some more!"

"Unfortunately, the game of tag ends here!"

I had finally arrived.

I twisted my body and glared at the black Aluminare, and I said to it while falling from the sky.

"From here on out, the real fight begins!"

"What are you talking... I see..."

Felouche must have noticed something, since he stopped the Aluminare.

As I keep falling, I head towards the valley.

I was adjusting the falling direction with [Active Wing], aiming at the machine that I finally managed to boot up yesterday.

Using [Pinpoint Cyclone] along the way to decelerate my falling speed, I plunged into the cockpit.

"Although doing actual combat suddenly is bad for you, just endure it for me"

Closing the cockpit's hatch, I opened the fuel valve and pressed the start button.

No anomaly in the various meters, remaining fuel was 10 percent, a sector of the monitors is out of order. Although there are a lot of dents in the left shoulder and the feet, it wont affect the battle too much.

I would like to say that all joints are all green but unfortunately they are all yellow. The Aluminare's monitor shows that the whole body stability is bright yellow, however!

"Aluminare, launch!"

Stepping on the pedal, the generator revved up, and I pushed the launch button.

All systems of the Aluminare woke up and it leaned greatly while I was operating the foot accordingly as it creaked.

"Let's go!"

I jump with full power from the stored energy on the legs. It was just a simple jump. But with the height of the Aluminare, I was able to grasp the edge of the valley.

I grabbed cliff with the right hand, and hooked my foot to it so i could step onto the cliff once more.

While the cliff was crumbling and collapsing, my machine jumped up again.

I looked up to the sky. The usual cliff can't be seen from both ends of the screen.

If I looked down, the screen would be filled up the the vast forest. And the black Aluminare can see this machine.

I aimed a kick while falling towards the black Aluminare.

That black guy dodged it with a back step.

"Finally, I too can fight!"

"Is that your machine!? So the thing that the captain was looking for really existed!"

"I repaired this machine from scratch! Like hell would I hand it over to you bastards!"

"I'll have to take it even if I had to kill you!"

Black came to me and stuck out its sword. He was precisely aiming at the cockpit. But wait— "Aren't you supposed to take me alive?!"

"If I can secure the machine then the captain will overlook it"

While fending off the stretched out sword, I rushed into his chest.

There are no weapon in this machine. Since there was none, I should steal it.

Reaching into the spare sword that has been equipped to the opponent's hip. I only grabbed empty air.

"Oops, that was dangerous. I wont let you steal it."

"Tsk, you did notice it huh?"

"You don't seem that knowledgeable about the machine's magic, I'll end this quickly."

"Like I'd let you do that"

The opponent had both swords in his hands. While I'm facing him with one unarmed hand. If this were a game, I would had gave up already because it was impossible. But unfortunately this was reality. Since this was the case, I better come up with way to overturn this situation or it will end up into real life version GAME OVER.

Although this is way too thrilling!

I kept thinking about ways to overturn this situation, while dodging the sword strikes that aims for the cockpit.

For the time being it was necessary to block off the enemy's swords and deal considerable damage to the enemy's fuselage, which will force him to retreat. The fighting here is so loud now. The other villages below should be able to see this battle. In other words, if I can make him withdraw once, there won't be a second time Since if there was a second time, it would be an all-out war between the National Army and the Group of the black Aluminare. As to be expected, even them wouldn't dare do something so reckless.

"Argh ....."

The sword grazed my right arm and the armor around there fell off. The machine does not move like I had imagined. The reason being this was my first time piloting it, and too much wear on the joints.

Add that little by little and an operational lag will surface.

"As expected, your mobility is not good"

"It's because I only did emergency repair"

"Just give up quickly"

"I refuse"

"You're stubborn. I want to quickly finish this boring fight!"

After dodging the sword that was thrust towards me, another one was already approaching.

I won't be able to avoid in time.

I completely gave up dodging it. In order to avoid a fatal strike, I squatted down. The head was blown off and the top movable monitor became useless immediately.

"Isn't there something I can do?!"

Because I heard the history surrounding this village from the Village Chief, I knew that this machine came from the period of the north-south civil war. I could easily tell that it was a machine built for war, so one or two attack magic should have been written!

"If you do not want to sleep again, show me your guts!"

I drove a shoulder tackle towards the black Aluminare while trying to stand up.

It would be indeed hard to dodge at point-blank range after swinging one's swords with both hands.

Two Aluminares fell down within the forest while mowing down trees with a big crash.

"That hurts!"

"That's my line!"

Due to the fact the seat belt was rotten, it could not be used. So there was nothing to secure my body! In such condition, my face slammed hard on the monitor. I probably had a nosebleed already, but it's not the time to care about such things.

With a desperate tackle, I was able to take the mount position. My hands won't miss from here.

I reached out with my right hand, grabbed the enemy's head, and pulled it with all my might.

The tubes that connects the head was exposed together with a creaking sound, and it snapped because it exceeded the durability.

This is payback for the camera.

Just when I thought so, my machine feel down after receiving an impact shock from the left side.

"Uh-oh, the captain will be mad at me"

The impact was caused by the black Aluminare's punch as he discarded the sword.

I wasn't able to properly guard because there was no left arm. But I can't ask for too much. If I have to do without then, so be it, I just have to fight in a way that will offset that.

The black Aluminare tried to swing down the sword on his left hand while I was trying to stand up, I broke his balance by swiping his leg.

I was also able to recover as he regained his balance.

The black Aluminare checks the location of the sword that was supposed to be on his right hand, it was on the location where I tackled him. I guess he dropped it from the impact. Well I don't have to worry that he'll be able to use it suddenly.

"I think its time to get serious. I'm gonna be amazed if you survive"

"What?"

As soon as the black Aluminare prepared its sword, flames started to envelop the sword. Furthermore, the ice spears from a while ago appeared around the machine.

So that's what he meant by being serious?!

I suddenly shorten the distance between me and the opponent. I also noticed earlier that that ice spears travels in a straight line without any homing function. In that case, as long as I can properly see the tip of the spear, I can dodge the attack. After that, I'll just stop the enemy's sword.

Sure enough, he launched the ice spears at once and passed right beside me and pierced the ground behind me.

I stared at the sword that was raised above head, assessed the trajectory of the swing, and moved my arm.

I stopped the enemy's arm with by grabbing it with my machine's arm held it like a pole However, this was not good enough. The enemy's right hand was still free.

The right hand moved as expected, throwing a punch aim at the cockpit. I repelled it with a knee strike.

Although my machine lost its balance and was about fall, I grabbed tightly at the enemy's left arm and somehow it managed to support my weight. Because the enemy doesn't want to get dragged down with me, the attack slowed down.

The arm that was struck by the knee was swung downward, but it doesn't have enough force behind it to strip off my armor.

Just the noise of the impact was transmitted.

"Your fighting style is interesting! You're different from those magic shooting

crowd out there!"

"Thanks for the praise! It's because I can't use any magic!"

Aluminare's magic can be activated just by pressing the button, but there are magic that I must not activate without passing through the appropriate process.

The mic and speaker for example, no matter was was the condition the engine, activating it at the touch of a button will not cause any adverse effect, so it's safe. But magic spells such as flame enveloping the sword or ice spears appearing around the machine are quite capable of damaging my machine depending on the situation.

So, in order to maintain a safe condition, activation restraint has been implemented.

Like right now, in close quarter combat, the ice spears cannot be used. Since I was holding one of his arm, the enemy had no choice but to use physical skills.

Anti-personnel magic lacks power anyway.

I was correcting the stance of my machine by moving the right hand away and released my hold. I escaped from the enemy's downward swing trajectory. At the same time, I rammed my freed right hand between the gap in the enemy's chest armor.

"What!?"

"If I peel the armor, you'll be exposed!"

"I won't let you do that!"

The enemy released his sword and pin down the shoulder of my machine with both hands.

If this situation continues, it'll become a contest of strength. I am in complete disadvantage with just one arm. I understood my predicament.

But, if I make use of that.

The black Aluminare forcibly pushed off my machine. Using its power, I whole-heatedly threw him behind me.

No matter how good his piloting skills are, its irrelevant. I was a mere simple

fall on its back. But it was that reason that it was powerful. All the weight was supported by the hand that was jammed between the gap in the armor.

It was for that reason the phenomenon occurred

"Wha!?"

"The strategy worked"

The armor was resistant against shocks coming in from the outside. It's because it was securely mounted on the body from the outside. On the contrary, it was surprisingly weak against force applied from within. It was the same for my machine. The Aluminare frame blueprint was written on the basic introduction. So I knew the fact that my machine was almost not that much different from how the armor was mounted on newer machines.

The armor of the black Aluminare wasn't able to handle the weight of my Aluminare where I'm hanging on with my machine's fingers. About three fingers of my machine got busted by the shock, but there was no helping it.

The sphere shaped cockpit and the generator in the internal frame got exposed.

"With this, even ordinary magic will penetrate"

The Aluminare resist magic with its armor. But there was only a piece of steel plate underneath the armor which is only 10cm thick Beyond that are the monitors that lined up.

My machine doesn't have a weapon. So I had to tear off the enemy's armor so that my own personal attack can penetrate.

"Both the cockpit and generator are exposed. Do you still want to fight?"

"Ah, damn. Don't make the captain angry....."

"It's better if we end this with just this much damage"

"You're right, but. Will you return my armor first. It will incur serious financial losses if I don't have it"

The black Aluminare took the opportunity to moved back away, and moved back further after dispelling the ice spears.

I can say that the Aluminare cannot continue to fight any longer. But If I add another blow to the generator, it would completely be inoperable. It seems that it was avoiding such risks.

After confirming that there was enough distance, I went to the place were the armor fell off and picked it up. I also took the sword and the broken head.

"You know, it was great that you're here"

"Then go back already"

"Haa, I'm going to"

We are approaching the village as we are retreating slowly. I never took my eyes from the enemy's machine however.

As we approached the village, I checked the condition of the village by zooming in the monitor. Anjou was fighting with the captain and the others over there.

"What are you doing Anjou!?"

"You're already done Eldo-kun?!"

"Felouch, what happened to the machine? As for your situation...."

"I'm sorry captain. I was defeated. Fighting a little bit more would have been really bad"

When Felouche said so, he operated the hands of his machine and pointed it towards the abdomen of the machine.

The captain was so shock, that it can be seen through the monitor, after seeing the exposed generator from the torn off internal armor.

"Captain, I advise that we withdraw"

"It can't be helped then. Wake up you maggots! We are leaving! Anybody who can, must pickup a sleeping maggot! At any rate, these guys will not chase us!"

The armored men simultaneously withdrew as the command of the captain. The retreat was professionally done as they were trained bandits.

The even didn't left behind anything that was valuable to themselves. If their comrade was impossible to pick up, they went to retrieve the swords and armors only.

"Do not chase them Anjou"

"I understand. More than that, you're in a terrible shape Eldo-kun! Your nose is bleeding!"

I opened up the hatch when I saw Anjou was climbing up to the cockpit using [Flare Booster]. When Anjou came inside, she raised her voice in surprise when she saw my condition.

Oh well, I was running around the forest at full speed and rolled over the ground.

My clothes were tattered and I'm quite badly bruised.

I breathe out a big sigh as I leaned on the seat. Honestly I'm so stressed and exhausted. I just want to go home and sleep.

"Don't mind the scratches, it will heal before long"

"It might be so, but......Hmmp, don't make me worry more"

"Sorry for worrying you. By the way, speaking about that, why were you in a fight? Didn't I told you to barricade yourselves in the Village Chief's house?"

"But. but...."

Anjou looked away while puffing her cheeks.

I'll just poke those cheeks to let the air out for now.

"Hmmp, stop teasing me....."

"Huh? What's wrong?"

Anjou tilts her head and looked confusingly lost while looking at me.

"Eldo-kun, your eyes are open"

"Of course its open if you are awake"

No not that, your eyes are wide open!"

"Eh? Seriously?"

My eyelids were certainly wide open when I touched my face to check.

This is—-

"It may be because you were excited while piloting the Aluminare"

Anyhow, in addition to having launched it at full power the first time, there was also the battle. If I think about it now, during the time I was fighting, I was completely under high tension and felt a little bit of fear, Surprisingly, I couldn't say the same about Felouche.

"Hah, it will return back to normal in a day"

"It's better if you don't return back to normal! You look way cooler this way!"

"Really? Is it because of the glinting eye I had inherited from my father?"

"Not at all, Eldo-kun's eyes gives a very gentle feeling"

"Even is said that now..."

I felt like it will return back to normal if I sleep, I don't have any way to prevent it.

"Eldo-chan! Anjou-chan!"

"Eldo, Anjou!"

"You two!"

Anjou and I exchanged glances when we heard the voices calling us from a distance.

"I saw my father and the rest running towards here. It seems that these guys saw the withdrawal of the bandits from the house.

And they said......

"Eldo, you come down and sit down here!"

"Anjou too should do a seiza!"

"It's good that both of you are safe"

Papa demanded that I do a seiza with an angry look that can probably kill a person. Anjou's mother looked like a demon while she made Anjou to sit in a sieza. And the Village Chief, Mama and the rest of the villagers burst out in tears as they were overcame with emotion.

Still I'm tired and would like to go home and sleep but..... Good gracious, the

The broken Aluminare and its group where moving through the forest.

Their stride was heavy and their mood was gloomy. Among them, only Felouche was smiling pleasantly in the cockpit.

The captain came up to hear the details of what had happened, but he grimaced after seeing it.

"You look very happy even though you failed"

They gained nothing on the operation this time, plus they had a damaged Aluminare. High Magia Liquid was already very expensive, and the operating cost of one machine was very high. If they are going to fill up the tank, the cost would be equivalent to feeding everyone in Eldo's village for one year.

They incurred heavy financial losses on this operation. Even so, it was on a level that they can't do anything about it.

Felouche just smiled when he saw the captain glaring at him.

"Yeah, I honestly did not think I would be able to enjoy it"

"I didn't think that you would be defeated. Did he had a great machine?"

The reason why they gave the machine to Felouche was because his piloting skills was the best among them. It had been confirmed by the past Aluminare battle they fought so far. The captain wasn't able to believe that Felouche was defeated.

"His machine was in the very worst condition"

Left arm was missing from the shoulder, and cannot activate any magic. All joint parts was tattered as it can be seen that there was lag in control or bad information transfer.

If the opponent was a normal pilot who learned Aluminare piloting skills from the country, then Felouche might be able to capture the machine without any damage.

But Eldo's piloting skills refused to yield to Felouche.

"Did I mention Eldo-kun? He knew how to fight with an Aluminare. He was like he had gone through endless combat and finally became a veteran pilot, as he was able to use the Aluminare to its full potential"

"And you got defeated by that?"

"I did not intend to lose. I would have won if we kept going. But I think there was chance that this generator will get damage though"

"Don't say that he won then"

"For me it is a win if you fight and survive. I can fight more in doing so"

Remembering the fight just a short while ago, Felouche's smile was turning into something like ecstasy.

"The Aluminare is an instrument. Therefore, you shouldn't think of it as a person. You can still fight if an arm was cut, You can remain calm if a finger was broken.

When Eldo realized that an attack was unavoidable, he took an immediate action to avoid the worst by sacrificing the head.

That was not an easy thing to do.

"What do you sacrifice to minimize the damage? How much damage can you take to keep fighting? If you can fight while taking that into consideration, then that will be the first the Aluminare real power can manifest"

"That kid was able to do all that?"

"Doing that much is not possible"

Even through it was through a monitor, receiving a sword right on the face on a whim was not normal. Even Felouche didn't knew if he will be able to make that judgment right away. If only for that moment, he thought that he was lower than Eldo in terms of skills.

Felouche can't stop laughing because of that.

"He will surely become a knight"

A knight was a special name given only to a Aluminare pilot unit.

"Captain"

"What is it?"

"Let's leave Fay Tal and go to Aubade Empire" Our losses was great this time around, if we become a mercenary under the direct control of the empire, we can save on repair cost"

"Hmm...."

The captain was also thinking about that. The Aubade Empire was the neighbor of Fay Tal Kingdom. That country was always pursuing the lands of Fay Tal that there are always skirmishes. They had unique system where they accept mercenary units as part of their armed forces in order to guarantee their war potential.

If they go to Aubade with their Aluminare, they will certainly be received with special treatment. The empire will replenish their fuel and repair the machine.

There was no conflict with the rules of de Liverpool.

But that also means that they will have to fight for the interest of the country.

After showing a hesitating attitude, the captain decided.

"Right, I'll accept your suggestion Felouche"

"Great!"

"However, you have to win next time. I will drag you down from the machine if you lose"

"Please leave it to me. Ah, I'm so looking forward to it. I'll be certainly able to kill Eldo-kun!"

Seeing Felouche smiling, the captain gave a sigh and went down from the Aluminare.

One week had passed since the bandit's attack.

I had spent everyday looking up at the Aluminare from my bedroom's window. Even though I said that, it was because of that incident that Papa sentenced me to a severe punishment.

I'm grounded for 2 weeks.

Dammit, not just from going to hunt in the forest, I was not even allowed to leave the house. I was supposed to be a valuable manpower in the village. But I did something drastic that they are not letting me out of the house. Well, considering that there was no opposition from all the other villagers, it might be a reasonable decision. Anyway, I wanted to enter the forest to go underneath the Aluminare in the first place, but now the Aluminare was left to Don at the village plaza.

I'm gonna polish the armor daily after my work will be done, and I intended to fix all the parts that needed fixing.

Heh, thinking about it again, I haven't really repented at all.

By the way, the thieves that were unable to escape were restrained and isolated into the village hut. Since even the minimum amount of water and food were not given, they should be at a level were it would be difficult to even stand up. Oh well, they had it coming.

"I have too much free time after all"

Speaking of things I have done while in the house all day long, I prepare the food and do the cleaning. I wasn't even permitted to do the laundry as I will have to go out to the garden.

I wanted to go out into the garden as a change of pace, but my mother's smile was scary.

Honestly, it was the first time I ever thought of my mother as scary...

And then, there was a knock on door of my room.

"Eldo-kun, long time no see"
"Oh, long time no see"

It was Anjou that came over. Anjou was grounded for 1 week, but it was lifted today.

"Already done with work?"

"Yeah, I was only harvesting today, I finished everything in the morning"

"I see. Aaaah, I also I want to go outside soon"

"You still have one week left. From this day on I will also come here, aren't you a little bit distracted?"

"Well yeah. This week was hellish."

On the day the bandits attacked. I received a preaching right off the bat until sunset and collapsed from fatigue.

I was asleep for the whole day, when I woke up, Mama was crying aloud again and I received another unreasonable preaching from Papa saying that "If you're in pain just simply tell me you're in pain".

To be someone that is able to say to Papa "Just leave it because he is pain" in those circumstances, wouldn't be bad.

That next day, Mama's maternal instinct exploded, I was not allowed to get out of my bedroom. While looking at the trees outside the window and thinking "Oh, I wonder if my life will already be exhausted after all the leaves fall" and so forth, I had no choice but to pretend as a sick person. By the way, it's spring so the trees are lush and full of leaves.

I was killing time by doing meaningless things, by the 3rd day I was already of thinking of going out, that was an ordeal.

As I thought that I could finally touch the Aluminare, I felt the brunt of being grounded. My despair was tremendous.

As I collapsed on my knees in that situation, I gradually ended up crying. Papa was surely a cold-hearted person since his son's tears wasn't effective at all.

"Aaaah, I want to quickly touch the Aluminare. I mean, there might not be an opportunity to touch it anymore"

"What do you mean? It belongs to Eldo-kun and once you're not grounded

anymore, shouldn't you just use it as much as you like?"
"Well, I can't really do that. Maybe if they are fast, this country will confiscate that machine in about one week"
"Huh!?"

It's been one week from the attack of bandits. Given this much time, the information that a black Aluminare appeared in this village should had arrived in the royal capital. And it shouldn't take a week if the a military unit had an available machine that had already been maintained. After all, the target was a bandit that owns an Aluminare. This country shall also earnestly come to subdue them. And once they arrived at this village, they'll only find one broken Aluminare. In addition to that, they'll see that this was a machine from before the north-south civil war since it had the Fortran Kingdom's crest. It will certainly be confiscated. When that time comes, I hope there is a chance to say something as the current owner but if I am careless they might only confiscate the machine without arguing about it.

The expected time period the army will come, will be around 2 weeks since last week.

"Really!? But that's something Eldo-kun worked really hard to repair on!" "Well, it is indeed true. But, they'll make it clear that they were the original owner"

I just repaired selfishly an object that fell, as for where the sign of ownership is, it was clear from the emblem drawn on its chest.

"Therefore, If I am careless the opportunity to touch it would soon disappear."

With that said, due to my fight against Felouche the fuel remaining was almost at the bottom. Just as I got to ride it, I wasn't able to operate it as much as I want. Various parts and joints have gone back to red. And to fix them, how many years would it take?

"Then will you give up?"
"No way in hell!!"

I looked up at the Aluminare visible from my window, and shook my head.

I finally found a robot after great pains and suffering. I shouldn't give up.

"I feel bad to my parents but I intend to become an Aluminare pilot. That's why I will leave the village"

"Eldo kun, you're gonna leave the village?"

"Yes. That's why you need to spend some time thinking about your future."

"What do you mean?"

Anjou anxiously tilted her head to the side. Her eyes were like an abandonned puppy.

I gently patted her head in order to reassure her.

"If I am gone, there won't be any guy in this village anymore that is in your age group. If that happens, wouldn't you leave the village too and look for a husband, It'll turn into a matchmaking trip"

Anjou is a descendant of the village chief. They cannot afford to let her lineage disappear. And, if it's inevitable reel in her future husband from anywhere. If it is needed.

In fact, Anjou must consider wether she would like to marry the son of a merchant or some young man from a village somewhere.

"No... No way! I mean, because I..!"

As Anjou tried to say something and tears were accumulating in her eyes she jump out of the room.

Even I, could roughly guess what Anjou was trying to say. For fifteen years we've been showing our affection to one another only as childhood friends. That honest feelings made me happy.

But since I trying to become an Aluminare pilot, it would be very dangerous to tag along.

The Aluminare will be constantly thrown into the frontline and will be the one in charge of the most dangerous spot on the battlefield. For a man that's trying to become one, shouldn't be expected to get a wife.

Before going to war, the pilots will erect a magnificent flag to have some important stories to tell when they return. And I'm sure I will feel this way, I didn't think as someone who lived in Japan would realized this.

Although It will be a valuable experience, It wasn't something that I'd want to

experience.

I look up again at the Aluminare, I was thinking about how to convince the army.

After five days, they came earlier than expected.

"Earthquakes?"

As I was eating lunch at the table, the water inside the cup was shaking. I immediately realized that it was not an earthquake, since I clearly remember the fine shaking rhythm.

"Did they come?"

"Eldo-chan, what is coming?"

Probably because she was working in the kitchen, Mama didn't seem to notice the shaking. But it suddenly became very noisy outside, her behavior was showing that she is paying attention to what is going on there.

"It's the National Aluminare Corps. I thought it was about time."

"Aluminare ....."

As for mother, I'm pretty sure she remembered about that black guy. Since her gentle facial expression will become stiff. Because it was similar to when the bandits also approached us, disguised as the national army. Well, it's natural to be vigilant.

"It's okay. This time they are the real one"

I replied to her after I saw the machines coming in near the village entrance from the window.

That machine was silver coated, and the complete picture of the kingdom's crest of a double-headed lion can be seem on its chest.

"Is that so?"

"When I heard the news that the black guy appeared, I came here running. Even though I understood that timewise I wouldn't be able to make it in time, if an Aluminare appeared I couldn't afford to not do anything"

"I'll go take a look at the situation. Eldo-chan, don't get out of the house."

"I know"

I was bitterly smiling as I send off Mama. She especially doesn't need to hurry.

As long as there was someone that was open to a discussion, I'll definitely receive an invitation from them.

I gazed at the kingdom's Aluminare from the window while eating my lunch.

After all, It really was beautiful. Both arms are maintained properly with few dents was mostly clean too. Probably, it's a machine that just had maintenance done on it.

That machine was probably just recently maintained.

It's appearance wasn't that much different from my machine. Was the aluminare related technology hasn't advanced much after several decades?

Well, I don't know what was inside it.

As I observed the Aluminare, Mama came back just like that.

"Welcome back. It is the real thing right?."

"Yeah, the Village Chief said that it was the real thing. I just talked with him at his house."

"Oh really? Did he said anything about my machine?"

"There's a soldier that wants to talk with you about that"

I won.

I made a victory pose in my mind.

"Right now?"

"Yes. Although you're still going through your punishment, I'll make an exception, since you were called by a soldier"

"Okay. See you later"

"Wait, I'm going too"

As I was about to go there alone, Mama also came with me. Well, Dad had left in order to hunt, since she's the only one remaining, I wonder if she was feeling lonely. Breathing fresh air after a long time sure was delicious. When I felt cramped, I used to open the window to at least clear the air in the room. But still, only a place without any roof can make you feel comfortable.

As I suddenly started to stretch my body, my mother urged me to hasten. Well, it wouldn't be too good to let that soldier wait either.

We arrived at the Village Chief's house with somewhat quick steps.

Come to think of it, was Anjou alright?. We didn't see each other since I said

that I'd leave the village. I was only natural that we haven't seen each other since I can't go out of the house and Anjou hasn't came by to visit. I hated we had something like a lover's quarrel. Other villagers were also gathered at the Village Chief's house, peering inside with growing curiosity. Nevertheless, since the door was tightly closed they cannot see what's going on inside. I wonder if I would hear about the situation since I was invited in.

After knocking, I entered the reception office.

Since Mama wasn't invited, she waited outside.

Although it was called a reception office, since we are an agricultural community in some remote region, there wasn't any luxury furniture nor fine sofa. The desperately scraped furnishings, the lined up books. And after the cheap pictures brought by the peddlers were decorating the place, there was just a somewhat large table in the center.

All the people gathered on the table looked at us.

On my right side was the Village Chief. And on my left side, those two might be the soldiers that arrived. Their uniforms looks like a male school uniform with white as its basic tone. There was a large difference compared to the bandit's armour.

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"Village Chief, did you call me?"
"Oh good, you came. Sit over here."
"Yes"
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I sat right next to the village chief like I was told.

"This is Eldo, the child that was piloting that Aluminare"
"Nice to meet you, I am called Eldo"

Along with the Village Chief's introduction, I also did a quick bow of the head. In such occasion, first impression was the most important thing. If I want to enter the Aluminare Corps referred to as the nation's honor, I must properly watch my manners.

If I made a bad impression here, my plan will be ruined.

"So you are Eldo-kun? You are indeed a clever boy. I'm Rogvell Bodouin, captain of the 31st Aluminare Corps"

"Similarly I'm O'Reil, the executive officer and chief mechanic"

Both of them looked to be about thirty. I knew they had good quality mascular body just by looking at their uniform. Captain Bodouin was a noble just by the fact he had a last name. With close-cropped blonde hair on his square shaped face, we definitely had a soldier in here. On the contrary, the man who called himself O'Reil had ruffled hair and his face was unshaved, rather than the military he gives a strong impression of a mechanic from a workshop. he claims to be the XO and the chief mechanic, but he's more likely to be a mechanic. If it was the modern era, his nickname will certainly be "Dwarf".

"I surmised that you want me to tell the story."

"Oh, we already roughly heard about the bandits from Village Chief but we would like hear things about that machine. I was surprised to hear from the Village Chief that you are the most knowledgeable one."

"Whoa, was that machine from the time of the civil war? Where did ya find it? Even though ya found, it would been impossible to move it in the first place. Hell, were ya the one to fix it?"

"Well, what should I answer first?"

"Calm down O'Reil. I understand you're excited as a mechanic, but if we don't ask in turn he won't be able to understand anything."

"Oh... alright... S'rry"

The XO was remonstrated by the captain, he apologised while roughly scratching his head. Aah, his already ruffled hair had became more messy.

"No, it is I who should say so. For the time being, should I tell you in a chronological order starting from where I obtained that machine?"

"Oh, please do so"

Since the captain nodded, I began to talk from that moment eight years ago where I found for the first time the Aluminare.

By the time I finished talking about the last eight years, the sun was already going down. By thouroughly talking about the way I repaired the machine, it might not be a mistake after all.

While the Village Chief showed his usual gentle looking smile, his eyes were squinting with happiness.

Well, The captain and XO should still understand my passion for the Aluminare.

"I see, I was able to understand the gist of it. I wouldn't expect the machine to be repaired to the point where it could feasably be in working condition. In addition, you thought about it when you're just an eight year-old child." "And with such a machine he was able to drive away a de Liverpool's machine, you're quite a boy"

"And, what will happen to that machine?"

It's time we cut through the chase, after I told them all I knew. The real game starts here.

"Hmm, if it's possible we would like to bring back that machine"

"That's a good idea. The generator is a high ranked item that exceeds highclass items. It is equivalent to building a royal castle to make one. We would like to recover it by all means possible"

Although I heard it was a high-class item, Didn't expect that it was comparable to building a royal castle. It seems they cannot mass-produce it because of that.

However, the captain did say that he was from the 31st Aluminare Corps, it meant that at least 31 machines had been deployed in this country. And the 32nd machine was right here. They would obviously want to get it.

"But when I heard how much passion you had poured into that machine..."

"At this point, I feel a little bit awkward about recovering it"

Well, my job-hunting interview in a form of self-appeal seems to be rather effective.

"Then, I just have one request."

"Hmm, as long it is within our ability to grant, we'll listen"

"I'd like you to recommend me to a pilot training academy"

"Ooh, the Academy? If you could enroll through recommendation, you'd certainly have various preferential treatments"

"Using that Aluminare as a compensation, isn't it too generous? If it were me, I would at least ask to be let into the order of knights"

I was certainly going to ask them just that af first. But, I changed my mind when I learned about the structure of the SENSE BOARD and some magic concept. There was so much that I don't know just from the Basic Introduction

textbook. As a formal knight that will be assigned to an Aluminare Corps, there are still lots of things I must know and study about. And I do not know any sword skills nor knew any etiquettes. I decided to hope for a recommendation to the Academy in order to know all of it. Besides....

"it's because I am still immature. And that machine, it might keep its appearance but in its present condition it cannot move"

"Is that so?"

"On top of the terrible damage from fighting, the remaining High magia Liquid is almost zero. But it will be able to start-up but lauching it is definitely impossible"

Moreover, each of the joints are also tattered. Honestly, except for the generator it will not be able to even walk if you do not replace all the parts with new ones.

"Indeed, when we bring it back we would also have to look into that. There's need for us to stay in here for awhile. Although, mr mayor, I apologize."

"No, no, we might have a small house, but please feel free to use it. Let us help you prepare a room for your troop."

"I'm sorry for the inconvenience . So as I said Eldo-kun"  $\mbox{"Okay"}$ 

"We're the best one you could ask for the aforementioned recommendation. Since the country seeks excellent people such as you. However, do you have your parent's permission?"

"No, not yet"

"If it's from receiving permission. Certainly at the age of 15, it may be the time one is thinking of walking alone on the road but it is still a time for receiving one's parent teaching. While we are staying here, properly get permission from your parents. Once you've done that, I'll try to recommend you to the Academy."

"Understood. Thank you."

I deeply To lowered my head. While my face was full of smiles.

## Part 2

## << < Project Page> >>

Changes:

Anjou -> Ange
Bodouin -> Baudouin
Academy -> Training Academy

When the meeting ended, I immediately went back to talk to my parents in order to get their permission.

"So, you're saying that you're going to leave this village?"

"Yes, I intend to become an Aluminare pilot once I enter the Training Academy. Since I'll become a soldier, I don't think I'll come back home so soon."

"Although you're mother will be lonely, I won't object since it's Eldo-chan's own decision."

"Indeed, I also don't have any particular objections."

I got their permission much easier than I expected. Well, even if I get in with a recommendation, it doesn't mean I was certain that I'll become an Aluminare pilot. There was also the possibility that depending on my results in the Training Academy, I could be dropped out from the selection. If that time comes, I will have to return to this village and take over my father's hunting business. If so, I may be able to get a hunting license while I'm in the city.

"Then it's decided that I'm going. To realize my dream."

"Do your best."

"Take care, okay?"

That night, we ate a slightly sumptuous meal and I crawled into my bed.

I was thinking on my bed while looking at the ceiling.

It was a little unexpected that my parents didn't ask me anything concerning Ange.

My parents and her parents thought that we would obviously marry each other in this village.

That's why I thought the odds that my parents would ask me what I would do

about Ange were high but.....

Was It just my imagination? If so, it's a bit embarrassing.

It's just that, I hate to separate with her in the middle of a fight. At worst, we won't be able to meet each other again.

I thought I'd meet her at the Village Chief's house but in the end I wasn't able to meet her. That Ange, I wonder where is she?

The next day. Since I have various things to prepare, my grounding was dropped 2 days earlier, so I went to visit the captain.

"I got permission from my parents."

"I see, we will go together when we return back."

"How long would it roughly take?"

"I would know after we inspect the machine today. Hey, O'reil."

"Yeah, they've been checking on it since the morning. It's about time they come back."

They must be talking about the knights that I saw when I came to the Village Chief's house, they were inspecting all kinds of things on my machine. It was really impressive to see the way a professional quickly does an inspection.

"Excuse me."

"Speaking of the devil."

A man in mid-twenties came in. It was probably because he was inspecting the Aluminare that there are some stains on him all over.

Red hair and golden eyes. His physique was rather thin compared to the Captain and the XO, if I had to say it he gives the impression of being delicate.

"How was it, Ritz?"

"It will be a challenge to make it move. There are compatible spare parts but there are a lot of spots that are broken. It is missing one arm to begin with, and all the joints are already weak. There was a rupture in the section of the hydraulic pump that was temporarily repaired, there are many sections where the transmission cables were broken, it was hard locating them. Sense Board is being inspected by Carine right now but it's such an old machine that it will be a little bit hard to read and write information on it."

Ritz kept reporting while briskly scratching his head. That behavior was

somehow similar to the XO. Since he was reporting about the condition of the machine means that this person was probably a mechanic. If so, he may be the XO's apprentice.

"High Magia Liquid will not be a problem if I set aside a few amounts, but it will take about 1 week to repair it. I really want to seriously repair it until it is good as new!"

"You'd go that far, huh? Well done in winning against the bandits."

"It was quite a close-call. Rather than winning, it would be more correct to say that I made them withdraw. I think he still wanted to fight because he was still in the condition to do so."

Even if the generator and the cockpit was exposed, he should still be able to fight with his skills. He didn't do so because he simply wanted to avoid any risks. It wont happen in the real battlefield.

"Who is he...?"

"He is the pilot of that machine. Eldo, this one here is Ritz, my apprentice."

"Really, so it was you. I heard that you repaired it all on your own until it could move. That would certainly excite my father. I'm Ritz, nice to meet you."

"I'm Eldo, nice to meet you too."

"What a courteous young boy. Once we get in the city, I'll invite you to a good shop."

I briskly scratched my head while I was grinning.

I wonder what kind of industry will it be.....

"Stop spouting non-sense and get back to maintenance right now! I'll follow afterward."

"Yes sir!"

As Ritz left the room, the XO let out a huge sigh.

"No matter what he can't ever act properly."

"He should be able to graduate from the Training Academy as a mechanic."

As the captain was smiling sarcastically, the XO let out a sigh to show his disappointment. It seems like the Training Academy do indeed have an etiquette training.

By the way, it looks like Ritz motion of scratching his hair was inherited from the

"Well, it is as you've heard. We will probably depart in one week. Until then make your preparations. And if you can, I want you to give us a hand. Since you have the skill to repair it on your own, you wont be a hindrance."

Actually I got plenty of help from Ange so I did not repair it on my own, but will Ange help me now? She seems to be avoiding me, so I can't ask her to help.

"Understood. Well then, excuse me as I will make my preparation at once" "Sure"

I went back home right away in order to prepare for the journey.

A week passed by in a blink of an eye.

During that time I got introduced to each members of the squad, I think a got along with them to some extent.

The 31st Aluminare squad had 5 members. Baudouin the Captain, the Executive Officer and Chief Mechanic O'Reil, the mechanic Ritz. And then there are 18 year-old Benoit and 22 year-old Carine which I just met recently.

Benoit was a silver-haired with a baby face young man, he was in charged of manual labor, to support the Aluminare, and the scouting. He originally aimed to become a pilot, but he didn't seem to have any speck of talent that he ended up eliminated as a pilot candidate. Still, he wanted to be involved with the Aluminares, so he wholeheartedly studied and ended being under the care of Captain Baudouin.

Carine was in charge of the Sense Board and the only female member of the squad. She wears red glasses and sports a pink two side up hairstyle.

Furthermore, she was a woman who had a strong impression due to her beauty spot near her mouth.

I barely talked to her but according to a conversation I had with Ritz-san, she seems to be pretty strong-willed.

The day to depart had finally come after working with these 5 people in repairing the broken Aluminare until it could move and finished with the start-up test.

But, what took 7 years for me to repair the machine was done in 1 week? These professionals are awesome!

And right now, I have someone to say my last farewell to.

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"I'll be so lonely."
"Sorry."
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Mama and I embraced each other. Despite that I was a reincarnated person, I was a little sad to be separated from them for they are the ones who raised me for 15 years.

"It's alright, it's something Eldo-chan decided to do on his own. Besides, I had a vague feeling you will do this someday."

"Indeed, I felt that one day, you will leave the village. Since you were a kid, you were smart in so many things. I thought you wouldn't be satisfied with just this village."

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"I see"

"Take care of yourself, boy"

"Yes"
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The other villagers had gathered also to cheer me on for my departure.

Although Ange wasn't among them.

In the end, I wasn't able to meet her.

"It's about time to go."

Ritz-san informed me of the departure.

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"Then, I'm going"
"Wait!"
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I turned around as I was about to go under the Aluminare, for I heard a voice coming from the crowd of villagers. Without a doubt, it was Ange's voice.

As I looked back, the crowd of villagers divided and I saw Ange beyond it.

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"Ange!"
"Eldo-kun!"
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Ange was slowly walking towards me. Ritz seeing the mood, just shrugged his shoulders and observed the course of event.

"I'm sorry Eldo-kun. For not meeting you until this day."

"No, I'm also at fault here. I selfishly decided it on my own"

"Well... It's because I somehow also knew that such a day would come. Eldo-kun, even though there were just only the two of us, the whole time you only had

your eyes set on the Aluminare."

"No, that was..... I'm sorry."

Well it's the truth. Still, to think that she yearned for me that much.

"It's okay, I forgive you. My mother told me that the ability to forgive is one of a woman's charms."

"Is, is that so""

To think that auntie told her such things...... Rather, I thought she was the kind to take you to the bottom of hell as a punishment.

"Tell you what, because I heard that you were going to leave the village, I also thought about my future. Or better yet, It occurred to me that I could probably follow you no matter what you say."

"That's....."

It was likely that she'll strongly come along on her own personal reasons. There are plenty of work in the city, with Ange's level of cuteness, she would be sought after as a receptionist or a waitress.

She also can cook and clean, so she could be a housemaid for some noble out there.

I have no ways to stop her.

As I made an awkward expression, Ange expressed an alluring smile like when her pranks had succeeded.

"It's fine. I understand that it will just cause trouble you. Although I want to be by your side, I don't want to become your shackles. Even now... no matter how hard I try, I cannot stay by your side. That's why, after consulting with my parents, I decided to send you off with a smile."

At these words, I released a sigh of relief.

"Because of that, I thought of making this until you departed."

As she was saying that, Ange took out from her pocket a necklace-type amulet. This was the so-called charm.

A thin chain passing through a dog-tag sized silver plate. On the silver plate was a metal gear and a bird's wing carved on it. However, the crafter tried too hard as the silver plate was a little bit warped and a line was distorted on the carved

picture.

Is this perhaps Ange's handicraft?

"Did you notice it? I made it with uncle's help."

This uncle must be this village's sole blacksmith, Ondo-san.

If I look carefully, I could see Ange's fingertip had some burns. It was very small, she must have touched an extremely hot pot to leave such burns. There won't be any scars.

However, I'll remember that she made this amulet to the point of getting burned.

"This mark is...?"

"It's a gear, for always playing with machines Eldo-kun, the wing looks like the wings of an angel, so that it would protect you."

While talking, her cheeks became deeply red. If I indirectly look around, the villagers were grinning.

Well, that's right. Although she said it will protect me, I soon found out the the meaning of her name was Angel. Well, it's best not to say it.

"I see, thanks. I'll treasure it."

I took the amulet from Ange and wore it around my neck.

As I wore it, the chain made some tinkling sound.

"Come back from time to time, okay? If you don't come back very often, I'll come to see you."

"I'll do my best."

It was vaguely evasive, peculiar to the Japanese. I expected that during my stay at the Training Academy, I won't be able to come back. There are stories such as a new recruit returning home in order to meet his childhood was highly frowned upon. I hope that I can return home by the third year.

"Then work hard, okay?"

"Yeah, I'm going then"

Having received Ange's blessing, I left the village for my journey.

"I'm sorry to kept you waiting."

"that was a pretty good atmosphere, wasn't it?"

"You may say so. I'm happy she's in love with me."

"You're not cute at all."

Ritz-san briskly rubbed my head as he said that. Ritz-san was definitely a Knight, he certainly thinks about women too.

"So, where should I go?"

"Well, about that... I entrust you to operate that machine"

In front of me was the one-armed Aluminare, it was my machine that was temporarily repaired. Wait, it's no longer my machine. I'm a little bit sad. But why do I have to pilot it?

"You are going to let me operate it?"

I was not an official pilot much less a member of the Aluminare squad, so me piloting the Aluminare would be a problem.

It was certainly different when I was piloting it in the countryside without permission.

"Yeah, it seemed that how it was suppose to be. Only the captain can operate an Aluminare properly within our squad.

"Huh? Aren't you guys suppose to learn the basics?"

No matter what department you are in, they should have learned basic piloting skills in the Training School. That what was written in the textbook.

"Yeah, that is indeed the case. But, our piloting is absolutely horrible. Everybody can't be a pilot and I honestly can't make it move, that's why I focused on becoming a mechanic and a scout. So there is no way in hell we are going to let you just walk away."

"Haa, is that so?"

"Therefore, you get in. It's the captain's order"

"Roger. I have no complaints if I could ride the Aluminare."

I really thought that I couldn't ride it for a while. I will get to enjoy piloting it for the last time.

I jumped toward the cockpit using the [Aero Thruster] and as soon as I boarded, I quickly finished the startup process.

Woah, having the machine repaired by a professional mechanic really makes a difference as expected. Starting it up felt totally different.

There was no problem if I operate it roughly.

"Launching."

I launched the Aluminare as I warned Ritz and the gang nearby.

The captain spoke to me after confirming the launch.

"Eldo-kun come and follow behind me."

"Understood."

The captain took the vanguard and I followed right behind. A wagon was following behind me and Ritz was driving it. Inside the wagon was the captured bandits, the XO and Carine.

Since Benoit was a scout, he was checking the situation ahead of us riding on a horse. This was the standard operating procedure when travelling with an Aluminare.

If the Aluminares proceeded the nearest town alone, it won't take a day to get there. However a wagon was travelling together, so it will take about three days since we have to match their speed.

During that time, me and the captain will operate the Aluminare continuously. This demanded more endurance than I expected.

It was unfortunate that this machine didn't have the convenience of an autopilot. Operating it was simplified to some extent, you can move it using one button and one slot. But i have to continue stepping on the pedal to make it walk continuously.

It will be dangerous if one foot keeps getting stressed because I was not walking at a constant pace.

But I didn't run around in the forest since I was 8 just for show. I did some warm-up in the garden earlier.

Night of the 3rd day. After we handed over the bandits to the town guard, I took a rest on the lodging that was given to use and felt relieved. By the way, I was surprised that I got praised for that.

"Is it that great, though?"

"It's rare to see rookies last for 3 days. Although there is basic training, muscles forged through constant training for a long time is different. There are also a lot of people end up over exerting under mental stress."

"The muscle cramps that comes after a march is something like a rite of passage for the rookies."

"Therefore, we can confidently recommend you."

"So you let me operate the Aluminare in order to verify that? But when I started using that machine, it was easier to operate you know?"

It's different from when it had battered joints, worn out sensitivity, and it was in such a state that it could totally break anytime. Now the pedals moved smoothly and the balance was perfect. It moved so smoothly that I didn't noticed an arm was missing.

Carine snorted when I pointed it out.

"Of course, I was the one who rewrote the Sense Board with the latest information The information from several decades ago was totally different." "I see, so the Sense Board made a huge difference."

So by simplifying the mechanical program from several decades ago, she made the operating of the machine much easier? I didn't knew the operation can change this much with just the OS.

"Even so, It's incredible enough that Eldo-kun can do it perfectly. You should be proud of yourself."

"Thank you very much."

"Well then, we move out tomorrow morning. Everybody, make sure to rest properly and be ready for tomorrow. That is all, you're dismissed."

We went back to our assigned rooms when the captain dismissed us.

We resumed our travel the next day, and we are already on our 5 day. After passing through a number of villages and towns, we finally arrived at Fort Ran which was our destination.

It was a fortified city surrounded by a huge wall that seems to be twice as tall as the Aluminare.

Well that's natural. This place was the main military base of the Fay Tal Kingdom where all the Aluminares are stationed.

It had the hangars for the Aluminare, factory for the High Magia Liquid and various parts, and a training school for those who aimed to become a Knight. This was an important strategic city that if this was conquered, the kingdom of Fay Tal itself will be on the verge of collapse. In some way, this city was considered as a second capital.

Benoit-san move together with the wagon as we approach the city since he was done scouting, and then the captain issued an order.

"Benoit"

"Sir, what is it?"

"Go ahead and ask the maintenance squad to hurry in their preparation to receive the Aluminare. We just added another machine which was more than scheduled. It's going to be difficult for them for the sudden change in plan." "Understood"

Benoit-san kicked his horse and start galloping. in the blink of an eye, he became as small as a grain of rice as he entered into the city.

"Is it fine for me to keep piloting as we enter the city? Since I'm just an outsider."

When entering a town or city, there was a simple inspection. Although it's called inspection, it only consisted of just looking at your face and lightly searching through the content of your luggage to see if you were a wanted criminal.

Soldiers and merchants have with them an identification letter that guarantees their identity in the country, this way they don't have to go through the inspection, but I am still a commoner. If I enter the city as is, I will be asked to do the inspection.

"It's okay. Benoit is reporting that we'll be the guarantors of your identity" "Understood"

As we gradually approach near the city, the size of the outer wall seemed to

stand out.

Now that I got a good look, it seems it was now 3 times as tall as the Aluminare. It was a 25 meter tall wall that completely stops anything from getting in. It's grandiosity was amazing. How can they construct something so awesome? Since the captain stopped the machine in front of the gate, I also stopped. Then a person came rushing to the captain.

"Welcome back sir. I heard the circumstances from Benoit-san. There's vacancy for two at the third hangar, so please proceed here."

"Understood"

"Aluminares are coming in! Sound off the warning alarm"

The soldier that stood at his feet shouted out the command as he goes back to the gate. I could hear the sound of the bell ringing throughout the whole city.

"What is that sound?"

"When an Aluminare is about to move inside the downtown area, they sound out the bell. That becomes a warning signal for the citizens. Because these guys are big, we might step on some people if we entered unannounced."

"I see"

On the animes I saw during my previous life, they had the hangar away from the city. But, this city operates as one big base, that was probably the reason why they can't divide it.

"Pay close attention once you enter the city. People will try avoid you but there is a chance that some children will jump out of nowhere" "Understood"

I wiped the sweat that gradually spread out on my hand and grasped the lever again.

And we then slowly entered inside the city.

"Oooh!"

When I saw the cityscape after passing through the gate, I unconsciously let out a sigh of admiration.

I didn't saw the city earlier since it was enclosed by the outer wall, but it was fairly developed. Although I said that, it was not the same from my previous life as the street were only lined up with stylish stone buildings.

4 and 5-storey buildings are not that rare, they completely tower over the Aluminare.

"How is it? Incredible right? There is only this city and capital that is developed to this extent in this country."

"Why are you bragging?"

"Because I'm from this city. I know a lot of good shops, you know"

How exactly good was that shop?.....

"Hah, What kind of shop?"

Carine-san had the same reaction as mine, and was scowling at Ritz-san while blushing. I didn't expect she had an innocent side.

"That talk is for another time"

He went ahead with the captain after giving a vague answer.

As we move ahead a little the road turns and we came out into a large street. It seem like it was the main street that links the north and south sides of the city. The gates are located on the East and West section and the road is wide enough to line up the Aluminares, but this main street can accommodate much more. Both sides of the street was packed with food carts and stalls. And from its shadows are the children who are watching the Aluminare with sparkle in their eyes.

"This road always ends up as a street market. There are a lot of shops that sells food, and during the night it just becomes one big market square. If you are worried about what you're going to eat, just come here to eat for now."

"I see"

They don't seem to use this wide road simply as a road. Right now the street stalls are on the edge of the road but they are usually lined up in the middle of the road, likely forming a large-scale street market district.

Thus, when the Aluminare alarm sounds off, everybody moved to the sides and wait to make way.

"Soon, you'll be able to see the school you're going to attend."

"Where is it?"

"On your left. Once we cross the next intersection, you should be able to see it."

As the machine moved forward, I looked towards my left full with excitement. And, just as I crossed the intersection, a gigantic building jump out in my view. It was a little bit far from here, but I can still clearly see the big dome roof. The building that looked like a school was linked to the outer-wall slowly forming an arc.

"That is the Fort Ran National Training School. The space between the school buildings and the outer-wall turn is the sports ground."

So that sports ground is covered by the dome-shaped roof?

"It is weather-proof, right?"

"Yeah, because as a soldier it's fundamental to train your body. It's naive to think that you can't train just because of rain. But there also times where you'll train outside under various weather conditions."

"If you are thinking naively before, you'll only get dropped from the selection." "That's right."

"Alright, stop with the tour guide. We will be arriving at the 3rd hangar soon." "Sorry about that."

"Roger."

I focused on piloting once again at the captain's order.

As we are nearing the southern part of the city, the landscape changed somehow.

So far it was just residential areas but this looked like an industrial district. The buildings likewise had 3 – 5 floors, however they had fewer windows and there were building where the whole first floor was just all doors.

After we moved a little bit ahead, a soldier was waving a flag in the middle of the road. Next to him was a building that looked like a huge warehouse that had an entrance that covers the whole 5 floors of the building.

"I've been waiting for you. Please follow my instructions as I guide you both." "I'm counting on you."

"Thank you very much."

We entered the warehouse as we were lead by the flag.

This seemed to be a maintenance hangar specifically for the Aluminare. There are walkways along the inner wall and people were bustling and hustling in

there.

The hangar outer wall seems to be made out of stone, but it was reinforced by an iron wall inside. The walkways were also made of iron. For some reason, I have the feeling that I returned back to Earth. It looked like an airplane hangar.

"Captain Baudouin to the second hangar slot. Third hangar slot for the onearmed please."

"Eldo-kun, do you know where it is? You can take your time. You can easily find it difficult to change direction within the hanger, so you may be asked to move backwards while entering the slot."

With those words, the captain entered hangar slot with "2" written on it as if he was used to it, and changed his direction on the spot. A passage from the walkway then extended outwards like a diving board, it was a catwalk intended for the cockpit entrance.

I see, you can get in and out with that. You don't have to use magic anymore to climb up to the cockpit every time.

"I'm just fine by myself."

I also moved into the third hangar slot in the same way, I also changed direction inside. Since I was off a little bit from the scaffolding, I adjusted my position and shut down the generator according to the procedure.

"Phew."

No matter what kind of vehicle you're operating, it doesn't change that parking will always be difficult. I let out a small sigh and relaxed.

As I was opening the hatch to get out, the captain was already waiting for me.

"That was splendid. Rookies usually bump or scrape something somewhere." "Then please don't let me do it next time. I'm certain all the mechanics almost had a heart attack.

"Isn't it funny though? Anyway follow me."

The captain went ahead the walkway while chuckling. As soon as I followed him, the mechanics immediately went to check everything on the machine. Well, I guess they'll have a lots to examine since it was an old machine. It might even have some historical value.

"Uum, where are we going right now?"

"For now, I absolutely have to explain what happened to my superiors, including you. We're going down to the Commander in Chief of the Aluminare Corps"

Is that so? When they received a report about a hostile Aluminare, they sortie only to find out an unknown Aluminare and a boy who can pilot it, and decided to bring both back.

Following the captain, we get out of the hangar and Benoit was already waiting outside. Riding on a Jeep——.

"Automobile?"

"Close, it's a magic car. Eldo-kun, you sit at the back"

As if he was used to it, he opened the passenger side door and the captain went in.

A magic car huh? Does that mean it moves on High Magia Liquid? If that's the case, this was likely a very high class item.

Whatever you are worried right is unnecessary. Please, get in first. I'll explain everything along the way."

"Ah, yes."

Just as Benoit told me, I sat on the back seat. With a 3 person rear seating capacity, It's quite comfortable since I'm alone.

By the way, the reason the XO, Ritz-san and Carine-san not riding with us was because they're doing maintenance on the captain's Aluminare together with the mechanics. It was only natural since they were mechanics in the first place.

"Benoit, Let's go."

"It's the Headquarters, right?"

"Yeah."

The magic car smoothly started to move with Benoit driving.